JOHN BULL

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For meaning of this No. see Page III. of Cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

ONLY 2 WEEKS THIS TIME

OUR NEW OFFER:

£1,000 FOOTBALL PRIZE

SEE PAGE 535.

CAN YOU ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS?

AN ARTICLE FOR ALL ENGAGED IN BUSINESS.

You will probably find it quite easy to answer most of these questions, but unless you are a rare and brilliant exception you will find several others a good deal more difficult. Some of them, indeed, may be altogether beyond you.

And yet you will agree they are all questions that you might have to answer any day in your own business. So, if only out of curiosity—run through the list and see how many you can answer correctly.

13 Specimen Questions.

1. What is the exact purpose of a ledger?
2. What do these signs mean: "E. & O. E.," "F. A. S.," and "G. A."?
3. How would you open a branch?
4. What is a consignment note?
5. Do you know how to organise a sale?
6. Do you understand office organisation?
7. What is the difference between sending goods on "consignment" and "on sale or return"?
8. How often by law must a factory be "limewashed"?
9. How and when is a judgment summons issued?
10. What is the cost of registering a limited company?
11. Do you know how to take out a patent?
12. How would you draw a selling scheme?
13. How can you recover debts at court without the expense of a solicitor or collecting agency?

How Many Did You Answer?

Well, how have you come through this examination in business knowledge? You must not forget that the knowledge of these facts and of many other facts like them is absolutely necessary to you if you mean to succeed. If you are in business for yourself you know how useful you would find it to be able to answer any business problem that arose; if you are working for others you must realise that your employer will value you more highly if he knows he can go to you for information when he needs it.

And that is why the "Business Encyclopædia and Legal Adviser" is so valuable a work—because it contains information about every point in business life. With it by your side you can answer any question about business that is put to you. For instance, you can answer all the questions that you have just asked yourself. You will find the full purpose of a ledger in the article on Ledgers, Vol. III., page 294. Under "Abbreviations" you will find the meaning of every symbol and sign that is used in business to-day. The third question you will solve by looking up the fine article on the Basic Idea in Business, and so on with all the other questions; and, in fact, with any question about anything relating to business.

How This Concerns You.

These questions may not arise in your business, but others do, and if you think it would mean anything to you to know at once what to say or do in every emergency, you should send the coupon below for a handsome illustrated book on Business, telling all about the "Business Encyclopædia," and giving the names of the successful business men who have written it. It also tells how any reader of JOHN BULL may obtain the complete work in seven volumes for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, and pay the balance in small monthly payments. Sending the coupon commits you to nothing. Is such an opportunity one you should miss?

A FREE BOOK.

This Coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book describing the "Business Encyclopædia," but it must be sent at once. It tells all about the work and the specially low terms to readers of JOHN BULL.

To THE CAXTON PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia." I am a reader of JOHN BULL

NAME .....

(*Send this form or a postcard.*)

ADDRESS .....

.....

SEE PAGE 535.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. NO. 5.

SEE PAGE 535.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches Played Saturday, April 26th.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Bolton W.	v. Sunderland
Bradford City	v. Tottenham H.
Chelsea	v. Notts County
Everton	v. Sheffield Wednesday
Newcastle Un.	v. Aston Villa
Oldham Athletic	v. Manchester Un.
W. Bromwich	v. Blackburn R.
Bristol City	v. Bury
Clapton Orient	v. Bradford
Glossop	v. Wolverhampton W.
Hull City	v. Leicester Fosse
Lincoln	v. Barnsley
Notts Forest	v. Fulham
Southampton	v. Gillingham
Plymouth A.	v. Northampton
Crystal Palace	v. Q. P. Rangers
Merthyr	v. Brentford
Watford	v. Millwall
Brighton	v. Swindon
Reading	v. Norwich City

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

RULES

WHICH SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "**JOHN BULL,**" **25 Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.**, mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 5**, so as to reach us not later than Friday, April 25th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The £1,000 cash Prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on April 26th. In the event of no coupon being received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £250 will be awarded to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct forecasts short of the full number. Should a lady not win or share either the £1,000 or the £250, £50 in cash will be awarded to the lady whose coupon gives more correct forecasts than that of any other lady competitor.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000 Prize and the Contingent Prize of £250, as well as the special £50 prize for ladies only, will be equally divided.

8. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 25th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 358. Week ending Saturday, April 1 th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

All remittances, applications for advertising space, subscriptions, orders, etc., should be addressed to Odhams Limited, 93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of "John Bull" for APRIL 5th, 1913, bearing on its Cover the Number 003,752.

Apply THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The John Bull League.

CARDIFF AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

THE PRESIDENT,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,
will address
A PUBLIC MEETING
in the
PARK HALL, CARDIFF,
on
FRIDAY, 11th APRIL.

Doors open 7 p.m. Chair to be taken at 8 p.m. Organ Recital, 7.15 p.m.
ADMISSION FREE. RESERVED SEATS ONE SHILLING.
(See "League Notes" for further particulars.)

HULL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

THE PRESIDENT,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,
will address
A PUBLIC MEETING
in the
CITY HALL, HULL,
on
FRIDAY, 18th APRIL.
(See "League Notes" for further particulars.)

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

O. P.!

The circulation of JOHN BULL last week amounted to nearly *one million, one hundred thousand copies*—and then we had to announce that we were "O.P."—the technical term for "out of print." After all, we cannot monopolise the whole of our printers' and publishers' resources—vast as they are.

Prudent Premier.

Viscount Wolmer has been trying to "draw" the Prime Minister upon the details of Mr. Lloyd George's New Land Campaign, but Mr. Asquith is about the worst person the noble lord could have selected for the process. His lordship was frigidly informed that the promulgation of the Government's policy would take place "in due course." In vain did the inquisitive Viscount press for further information. Mr. Asquith can be as stubborn as a mule when he likes, and he is not the man to talk when he has nothing to say. We rather suspect that, in his heart of hearts, Mr. Asquith feels that we have had enough Land legislation for the moment.

Landed!

Whatever may be their ultimate benefit to the community, there can be no question whatever that up to the present the Land Taxes enacted by the "People's Budget" have had anything but a salutary effect. As against an anticipated revenue for the first two years of £550,000, only about £60,000 has been received—on an outlay of £686,000; whilst there has been an almost complete stoppage in the supply of dwelling-houses for the working-classes, the figure having dropped to the level of 1893—the year of the collapse of the Liberator Building Society. Mr. Lloyd George, therefore, will have to buck up if the people are to taste of his rare and refreshing fruit before "the transient glory of his office"—*vide* his Marconi evidence—passes from him.

A Timely Suggestion.

The proposal to add a billiard-room to the House of Commons is not without merit. It might have the effect of teaching members to "play the game," and not to be always trying to pot their opponent! They could also learn the danger of putting on side! Our billiard friends might suggest something about "screw."

The Grand National—Circus.

Isn't it about time this farce were abolished? When every year, out of a score and more of the best steeplechase horses in the country, only two or three succeed in getting round the course, the "race" becomes a circus.

Law for the Million.

We direct the attention of our readers to the new feature, under this heading, which we commence this week, and which we propose to continue until such time as we are able to launch the *Lay Lawyer*. Some day, when we get the Business Government, the Law of the country, as it affects the average citizen, will be a portion of the curriculum of our elementary schools.

Bullets Booming.

Despite all rival schemes, "Bullets" continues to hold its own as the most fascinating and, at the same time, educative recreation of the day—thus demonstrating the fact that the public knows a straight competition when it sees one.

Our Football "Wind Up" Contest. £1,000 Cash Offered. See page 535.

After the Party is Over.

The party being over, who shall foot the bill? Apparently the answer does not exhaust the obvious, for the Public Accounts Committee and the Treasury, which for present purposes may be personified as Mr. Asquith, are in conflict over it. The famous No. 10, Downing Street is the Premier's official residence, but it is inconvenient, among other things, for big receptions, and when on the last occasion the Premier held one, the Office of Works put up in the garden a temporary structure costing £170 for the accommodation of the guests. And the Treasury have authorised the bill—which means that it will be chucked on the taxes, where most other things are chucked which escape the rates; but as the Premier's reception was not a public one—only a Party one—it is suggested that it ought not to be paid for out of public funds. It is a pretty point.

A Public Nuisance.

Mr. Churchill did well to administer a severe rebuke to Keir Hardie during the recent naval debate. Apart from his rotten political record, Hardie is one of the most dangerous of the Anti-National Socialists, and the sloppy sentimentality with which he cloaks his public utterances is apt to blind his hearers to the true inwardness of his cosmopolitan creed. His unbridled tongue has more than once threatened grave mischief to British interests, notably in India, where he delights to appear as the fire-eating prophet of sedition. He is one of a small group of "internationalists" who in the present state of European politics are more dangerous than open foes. Nothing short of a German bullet will bring such men to their senses—but they may be trusted to keep on the safe side of an enemy's gun.

Getting Warm.

Our hon. friend, Mr. Francis Neilson, M.P., has nearly grasped the right idea in connection with the Party System. At a recent meeting he observed:—

> The curse of it all was the taint of party politics. That was the stumbling-block to the whole of our progress in this country. Oh, if we could only for ever shut out the party system—have no party at all, but have all men crying out for righteousness.

Now, if he had substituted the word "business" for "righteousness," the sentence would have been perfect, and would have entitled him to a John Bull League certificate. But we must remember that on this occasion he was addressing a P.S.A. Brotherhood!

Divorce and White Slavery.

Here is an interesting little story, vouched for by a leading London solicitor. A needy artisan unwittingly married a woman of easy virtue. Whenever he was in work she used to call, in a state of inebriation, and make a scene with his employers, with the result that he lost job after job. Upon the passing of the White Slave Traffic Act the poor man found himself in imminent danger of being sentenced to be flogged, and consequently he has solved the difficulty by emigrating to Canada. Thus does the White Slave Act shed a lurid light upon the present state of our Divorce Laws.

Hope!

A recent issue of the *Gazette* states that Gunner Charles Davidge, of His Majesty's Navy, has been promoted to the rank of Chief Gunner in consideration of his services during naval operations in China in the year 1900. We regard the announcement as a happy augury of an improved condition of affairs at the Admiralty. We understand that the Department is making strenuous efforts to wipe off all arrears of work of more than ten years' standing. The outlook is distinctly hopeful.

Poverty a Crime.

A correspondent calls our attention to a bad case of petty tyranny on the part of the Oxted Justices. Riding a bicycle without a light is doubtless an offence involving some amount of danger to pedestrians, but a fine of sixteen shillings upon a lad earning eight shillings a week offends one's sense of justice. Unfortunately, however, this instance of harsh treatment did not end with the police court proceedings. The boy did not appear at Court, being unable to leave his work, and he received no intimation that a fine had been imposed until the end of February, when a police officer was sent to collect the impost, with interest for the period during which it had remained unpaid. The money was not forthcoming, and the unfortunate boy was thereupon lodged in gaol to undergo a week's imprisonment in default of payment. Such proceedings are an outrage upon public decency. They are part of the price we pay for allowing local justice to be administered by consequential nobodies, who have neither the brains nor the sympathy required for the proper discharge of the duties of their office.

That Inconsistent Call.

It will be remembered that when the Bishop of the Falklands saw he would fail in his egregious cadging campaign in England he threatened to resign from the diocese. Afterwards, however, it was stated that he decided not to do so as a result of an insistent "call" which compelled him to remain. "If that insistent call came from here," now says one of our readers at Port Stanley, "the callers were (at the first cathedral service on his lordship's arrival) the organist, the sexton, the parson's wife, six little boys in surplices and seven little girls, all in the choir; also a congregation of one elderly lady, myself, and one child." It is not for us to quibble, however. Let us therefore call the call insistent, but not noisy.

Way of the World.

A farmer of Daventry has had an experience which induced him to quoth thus unto us: "Election day arrives, and what happens? Not one of the local gentry (hunting people) offer the farmer a car. They all turn their backs on us farmers and send ten or a dozen cars to help the brewer. How different these very people are at a meet of hounds. They are the very first to come and shake hands and tell us what jolly good fellows we are. I hope, sir, you will ask the local gentry if this is the proper way to encourage farmers to allow hunting, etc." We will. Also, we do.

Winston's Parting.

The newspapers have been greatly interested of late in Mr. Churchill's hair. First they noticed that our illustrious friend had parted the locks low down on the right side; now they record that he is himself again, having gone high up on the left of the crown, "where there is little hair." Surely a gentleman may do as he pleases with his own without being made the subject of such vulgar gossip. Winston is not the man to be afraid of a little bit off the top. He knows well that any donkey can grow hair.

Consolatory.

We don't know whether the news will bring comfort to anybody, but Mr. M'Kenna's Parliamentary announcement is that "the important and far-reaching questions raised in the Report of the Royal Commission on Divorce are under the consideration of the Government." Rumour has it that the Government have also under consideration the Greek Kalends, and the ultimate particles of matter; also how to make Mrs. Pankhurst eat.

Look out for Our Great Summer Competition. Particulars shortly.

Winston's Wanderings.

To charge Ministers with impropriety is the fashion of the hour. Viscount Wolmer, who appears to have a positive genius for these things, suggests that the First Lord of the Admiralty's recent Mediterranean cruise was undertaken as much for pleasure as for business, and he asserts that Mr. Churchill actually visited Monte Carlo in His Majesty's ship *Hussar!* The First Lord was disposed to evade the fell charge, but the noble Viscount would not be denied. Mr. Swift MacNeill came to Mr. Churchill's assistance with the helpful suggestion that he was a paragon of virtue compared with some of his predecessors in office: Lord Selborne, for instance, had actually used a King's ship for his wedding tour! The episode culminated in a pious protest from Mr. Robert Harcourt against the temerity of Viscount Wolmer in breathing the profane words "Monte Carlo" in the pure air of the House of Commons, but the Speaker was of opinion that the expression did not pass the bounds of Parliamentary decorum. At this juncture someone intimated that there were more important matters awaiting discussion, whereupon the House rapidly emptied. So do our legislators earn their pay!

Price of an Eye.

Eyes seem to be pretty cheap in Haverfordwest. In the course of his employment, one Thomas, an agricultural labourer, lost the sight of one of his eyes. In the County Court, Judge Lloyd Morgan referred the value of the eye to one Dr. Cresswell, who came to "the conclusion that the applicant was able to do farm work with one eye." Therefore his Honour awarded compensation of 1s. 6d. per week, consequent on the man's employer finding him work at 7s. a week. On this basis we may suggest the value of the whole Welsh agricultural labourer as follows: 1 eye, 1s. 6d.; 2 do., 3s.; 1 arm, 2s. 6d.; 2 do., 5s.; 1 leg, 3s. 6d.; 2 do., 7s.; 1 head, including brains, 7s. 6d.; 1 trunk, including heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, and other necessaries, 10s.; total for the whole man, £1 12s. 6d. Query: Having regard to the foregoing, and taking into consideration the rise in the price of meat, what is the value of a one-eyed judge?

Registry Office Fraud.

The police have successfully prosecuted a characteristic registry office fraud at Bradford. The method of the proprietress, one Hilda Hendry, was to take fees from persons requiring situations and then to put them in communication either with persons who had not any vacancies to offer, or with a person in business with herself and whom she used as a dummy. Though this is an old trick, and has been often exposed, it is not always easy to detect. In this instance the woman was fined £5 and 50s. costs, with suspension of her registration licence for six months—a penalty which those who make a living out of registry offices will be well advised carefully to note.

A Brisk Bishop.

The Rev. Albert Knight, the eloping Leeds vicar, has been duly unfrocked by the Bishop of Ripon. We cannot refrain from comparing the Bishop's prompt action on this occasion with the disgracefully dilatory proceedings of his colleague of Bath and Wells in the immeasurably worse case of Smyth-Pigott. Presumably, his Grace of Ripon was determined we should not forestall him, or perhaps he really realises that a man who leaves his wife to consort with an unmarried woman, is not exactly a fit person to minister in holy things. We will give his lordship the benefit of the doubt.

A Coaling Affair.

Rather a subtle point arises on a recent decision of Judge Wheeler in Newport Pagnell County Court. A customer of one Hall, a coal merchant, posted an order to him for the delivery of a truck of coals. Instead of the postman delivering the letter to Hall, he accidentally delivered it to another coal merchant, named Warr, who duly executed it, to the loss of Hall, whose action was for damages measured by the loss of profits. The Judge gave a verdict for the defendant, and on the facts of the particular case his law may be right. But in the course of his summing up he laid down the general proposition that when a person for whom it is not intended gets a letter addressed to somebody else, "it cannot be pretended that he is under any legal obligation to forward that letter to whom it was addressed. It was a question of courtesy, but as to legal obligation, absolutely 'No.'" Supposing the letter contains a £100 note, can the wrongful recipient convert it to his own use? In other words, is it really settled law that any person wrongfully receiving a letter or parcel addressed to another person is entitled to utilise the contents, however valuable, to his own personal advantage? Judge Wheeler had better look up his books.

Bumble, of Brigg.

A sailor, living in Ings Lane, Barton-on-Humber, is unable to work on account of a diseased hip. He applied to the Guardians at Brigg, who allowed him 9s. a week for the support of himself, his wife, and three children. As this was rather lean living, the wife thought she would try what she could do to help, her youngest child being now fifteen months old. Eventually she obtained a situation as a charwoman at 1s. 6d. a day, one day a week. Some kind friend then informed the Guardians of the extra wealth she was bringing into the home, and as she was unable to deny the 'orrible indictment they reduced the official allowance from 9s. to 7s. 6d. a week If we had to express our real opinions about the action of Brigg's Bumbles in this matter, they would think the weather so hot that they would want to take a header into the Humber. We shall consequently leave the people of Barton to make such remarks as they deem suitable to the occasion.

Star One.

Down in Bristol they have a smart little monthly called the *Bristolian*, with the smug sub-title of "The World in General and Bristol in Particular." And in its April number there is a reference to our recent meeting at the great Colston Hall. We are told that our Business Government idea "is sophistical and unconvincing," and that it is "difficult to picture us as the leader of a really sound and hopeful cause," although if only we would "hitch our waggon to a star, rather than to this will-o'-the wisp, we should gain the adherence of many who, whilst recognising our genius as an advocate and a leader, hold aloof because of the insincerity of this Business Government shibboleth." To what star had our friend hitched *his* waggon that night? "Three Star?"

Father M'Gettigan's Methods.

Several Catholic readers criticise our criticism of Father Patrick M'Gettigan, of Musselborough, Scotland, who has been cadging for his church by offering to sell prayers and masses of various kinds to those who contribute or collect certain sums. We reply that this form of clerical cadging is just as objectionable in a Roman Catholic as other forms of clerical cadging we have criticised are in an Anglican, a Nonconformist, or a Nothingarian, and that Father Gettigan—the name is appropriate—has no right to immunity from public criticism.

£1,000 for Football Forecasts. No Goals. See page 535.

York Hospital Scandal.

Isn't it about time the Governing Committee of the York County Hospital took the public into their confidence in regard to their method of dealing with scandals in connection with that institution? It is alleged that the hospital is inefficiently worked, and it is known that the whole—or, at any rate, a large proportion of—the medical staff resigned the institution in January. Since they have left they have openly charged the matron and sisters with inhuman conduct, quoting, as a specific instance, the case of a patient who was sent to the mortuary certified as dead, a card on the shroud bearing the words, "Died at 7.30 a.m.," when in fact the man was then alive. Now there reaches us the story that the parents of a child who died in the hospital had the body of their loved one returned to them for burial *minus* an arm and with the bowels replaced by cotton wool. We do not say this is true, for scandals gather their own accretions as a ship gathers barnacles; but because it may be true, in whole or in part—and because we have heard similar stories before—we ask the Governing Committee to say whether or not any such abominable incident has occurred.

The Open Door.

Writing from Westleigh Vicarage, Bideford, the Rev. N. G. Davies suggests this method of dealing with the Crankhursts:—(1) Place tempting food in the cells. (2) Leave the cell door open and permit a free exit from the prison. "The hunger strikers would then be obliged to follow one of three courses:—(*a*) Take food, (*b*) walk out of prison, (*c*) neither take the food nor leave the cell." As to (*b*), of course, the answer is that if you are going to let people out of prison it is no use taking the trouble to put them in. If (*c*) is resolutely pursued the rev. gentleman admits that it must mean death by starvation, but he would allow friends and relatives access to the prisoners with liberty to administer food to them. There may be something in the idea; and our suggestion to Mr. McKenna is that as soon as her mother starts to die he should call in Sylvia to serve dinner, leaving them to share between them the responsibility for what subsequently happened.

"Chips" in the "Chops."

Passengers crossing to the Continent may have noticed during some brief interval of rest between the recurring labour of feeding the fishes, a sailor with the sleeve of his jacket or jersey adorned with a representation of two crossed axes, and may have concluded that they were gazing upon a real, live "chips," or ship's carpenter. In the case of many of the cross-Channel steamers, however, things are not always what they seem, and far too often the sailor who passes for the ship's carpenter scarcely knows the difference between a jack plane and a brace bit. Unfortunately, the Board of Trade regulations do not insist that a certificated carpenter, or ship constructor, should be carried on every passenger boat; but the presence of one is essential to the public safety. It is, of course, utterly useless to bring this matter to the notice of the bogus "Board" of Trade. Since the scandalous fiasco of the *Titanic* Inquiry we give it up in despair.

Edward VIII.

Queen Mary made the Prince of Wales keep a diary while he was in Paris. Here is an extract: "9 a.m., breakfast with Hansell; 10 a.m., read with Hansell; 11 a.m., visited Louvre and Sainte Chapelle with Hansell; 12.30 p.m., lunch with Hansell; 2 p.m., visited Luxembourg with Hansell; 4 p.m., tea with Hansell; 5 p.m., read with Hansell; 7.30 p.m., dined with Hansell; 10 p.m., to bed. I wonder what my grandfather saw in Paris to make him go so often."

Lion and Lamb.

The licensing lion does not often lie down with the publican lamb, hence we were the more interested to hear last week of a function at Hastings where the unusual incident occurred. The occasion was the annual dinner of the Hastings and Bexhill Licensed Victuallers' Association, at which the Mayor presided, supported by Mr. Macer Wright, J.P., Chairman of the Bench of Licensing Magistrates. That such an official should lend his countenance to a gathering of publicans will probably come as a shock to many of the local teetotal enthusiasts, who appear to imagine that the sole duty of a licensing magistrate is to harry and harass the "trade," and on no account to have any social dealings with its members. They would have been perhaps even more chagrined had they heard the gentleman in question declare that the publican is the only tradesman who is required by law to possess an unblemished character. We congratulate Hastings on the possession not only of a broad-minded Mayor, but also of a magistrate who realises that the publican is a man and a brother and does not hesitate to join him on occasion in the feast of reason and the flow of soul—and in fare of a more tangible and sustaining sort.

Rule of the Car.

From the rules issued by the Leicester Corporation to enlighten the public using the new "pay-as-you-enter" cars, we find it is necessary to hand the fare to the conductor and take a ticket, also that if the passenger desires to ride upper deck he must mount the stairway. Without these instructions he might have supposed he would have to hand his fare to a policeman or reach the tram top by climbing up a lamp-post. In the next published edition perhaps the Tramways Committee will see fit to add another rule which for the moment has evidently been omitted for want of space—to wit, "It is not dangerous to put one foot on the rail if you do not put the other on the overhead wire."

A Disgraceful Wage.

The Yarmouth Council have recently received the resignation of a shorthand and engrossing clerk in the Town Clerk's office, his salary at twenty-one years of age being 12s. a week. The cause of his resignation is well known in the office, and really we hardly wonder at it. The Council have now appointed his successor at 12s. 6d. a week. It is scandalous that a public body should sweat its servants in this way; for it is obvious that, unless the clerk has been more successful than we suspect in the selection of his parents, he cannot clothe, lodge, and nourish himself on the money—not even if he confines his meals to an exclusive diet of Yarmouth bloaters.

Another Bull.

When the members of the Rye and District Liberal Association turned up the other evening, many of them were surprised to perceive in the chair, Mr. John Bull—he of Wittersham—who proclaimed himself neither Liberal nor Conservative, and expressed the opinion that "the time was coming when they would sink their party politics and go in for one common good." Their surprise does not surprise us. A Bull in a Party club is rather like a bull in a china shop. There are such a lot of things to smash.

R. S. Surtees on Party.

If a man wants to be thoroughly disgusted with human nature, let him ally himself unreservedly to a political party. He will find cozening and sneaking and selfishness in all their varieties, and patriotic false pretences in their most luxuriant growth.—(From "Ask Mamma," Chap. 75).

A Reader Wins £400. Why shouldn't You? Try "Bullets" on page 542.

A "Rotten" System.

More Insurance Act. A member of the Loyal Caledonian Corks Lodge 134, Birmingham, recently fell ill and sent in his medical certificate. After he had been at home for nine or ten days application was made for his sick pay. The Secretary replied that he was very sorry, but he could not pay at present, as the money had not been received from the Insurance Commissioners, but he hoped to receive it in a day or two. "I myself then went and saw the Secretary," the man's friend tells us, "and was told the same tale. When I suggested that the society should meet the claims of their members out of their own funds, as they are in a far better position to wait than a person who was sick, he pooh-poohed the idea. I maintain this is a rotten system." So do we.

Sanguine Smith.

After a protracted silence, Mr. F. E. Smith has at last unbosomed himself on the question of Tariff Reform and the Unionist *modus vivendi*. According to F. E., the new arrangement is perfectly well understood by the Party—we are glad to have this assurance. Mr. Smith, however, does not affect to be enthusiastic over the much-vaunted "compromise"—neither is he unduly depressed. Whatever fate may be in store for the Unionist Party or for the cause of Tariff Reform, there will still be F. E.—to say nothing of Winston! So why worry?

The Week's Chestnut.

HABITUAL CUSTOMER (*to his Barber*): "Your confounded hair restorer has made my hair come out more than ever."

BARBER: "Ah, you must have put too much on, sir; made the hair come right out 'stead of only half way."

SUMMONED TO BOW STREET!

HOW THE AUTHORITIES HELP US TO CLEAR OUT SWEEPSTAKE "CROOKS."

The Editor has been summoned to appear at Bow Street at three o'clock on Thursday afternoon to answer an information laid by Chief Inspector William Newman, of the "E" Division, "for that he"—(we are not responsible for the English)—"on or about the 8th day of March, and on or about the 15th day of March, did publish in an issue of a paper called JOHN BULL a scheme for the sale of chances in a certain lottery, entitled the 'JOHN BULL Derby Sweep,' contrary to 4 George 4, cap. 60, section 41." We must not, of course, comment on the merits of the case. That we will do at Bow Street. If we have in any way infringed the provisions of 4 George 4, cap. 60, section 41, we are very sorry, and, of course, we must take the consequences—even to the extent of being sent to prison as "a rogue and vagabond"—a sad ending to all our struggles! Or we may be fined; or, as in the case of our Weekly Ballot Scheme, we may be held guilty of such a purely technical offence that the magistrate may consider the ends of justice served by ordering us to pay the costs. Or, of course, he may not find us guilty at all. All these things must await "The Day." But in the meantime, and without in any way discussing the case, we may surely be permitted to express our regret that whilst the murder of the little girl scout at Woking and other crimes are unsolved, and their perpetrators remain at large, *we* should be singled out for attention at a time when we are protecting the public from the frauds of foreign sweepstake swindlers, and, incidentally, providing a substantial fund for the benefit of London hospitals and other charities. If, in adopting this course, we have infringed the law—well, "the law *is* a ass"!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselv by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating that: "The Chingford Urban District Council have let the tar-spraying of their roads to Messrs. H. V. Smith and Co., Limited, at 2D. PER MILE,"

THE SANITARY RECORD
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the race for the Stanton Selling Steeplechase Plate that: "Comfort joined Bibby, and, assuming the lead SIX LENGTHS *from home, won by* FIFTEEN LENGTHS,"

THE LIVERPOOL ECHO
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in his address to the parochial electors, published in the "Thames Valley Times," that he will "study their interests, both for and AGAINST,"

MR. WILLIAM JAMES LYONS
(Castle Hotel, Sunbury-on-Thames)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its account of the claims of Miss Jennie Jones to have experienced visions that: "She is thirty-three years of age, and since the age of six or seven years had SUFFERED FROM BLAENAU FESTINIOG, MERIONETH,"

THE DAILY MIRROR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in his Parish Magazine for April that: "By the time this issue is in your hands Easter will have COME AND GONE. . . I SINCERELY WISH YOU ALL A BRIGHT AND BLESSED EASTER,"

THE REV. HYLA H. HOLDEN,
(Rector of St. Laurence, Upminster)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following instruction in a recipe in "Woman's Life": "Mock Ice Mould. Soak three penny stale sponge cakes with SHERRY, *which previous* SPLIT, *and put in raspberry jam,"*

MRS. A. JACKSON
(1,259, Govan Road, Govan, Glasgow)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of an explosion in the Cannock and Rugely Colliery yard that: "Another missile MADE A HOLE THROUGH A HOLE *in the roof of Captain Burnett's house on the opposite side of the road,"*

THE EXPRESS AND STAR (Wolverhampton)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing on his business card: "The eggs are from the Langshan hen at our own farm, reared under Scientific superintend; and, guaranteed that no rotten material. A trial will convince you that they are the best SMELL *relish and healthy stimalating,"*

MR. KAN TAT
("Fresh Eggs Supply," 31A, Peel St., Hongkong)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For adding to their advertisement in "Motor Cycling" of an N.S.U. machine: "Please note that this is a BARGAIN, *and we are* HAPPY TO SAY THAT WE HAVE NOT ANY MORE,"

MESSRS. HITCHENS, LTD. (Morecambe),
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED

*We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked "*BISCUIT*" and addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."*

A Thrilling New Serial—"The Convict Woman"—begins in "Mary Bull" Friday next.

LONDON HOSPITAL SCANDAL.

HOW THE LONDON HOSPITAL DESECRATES THE BODIES OF THE POOR—MORE POLITE LETTERS FROM MR. SYDNEY HOLLAND.

In the course of a year, ten thousand *post-mortem* examinations are performed in our London hospitals. This number does not include examinations ordered by coroners in connection with inquests. At least 50 per cent. of these hospital dissections are absolutely unnecessary for the purpose of ascertaining the cause of death—in most cases, the *post-mortem* is held merely for what the doctors would call "scientific purposes," just as vivisection is practised upon dogs. As the law stands, hospital authorities are not allowed to hold these examinations without the consent of the nearest relative, and we might add not 1 per cent. of sane persons would allow an autopsy on their nearest and dearest if they were acquainted with the gruesome facts. Even without special knowledge of *post-mortem* horrors, the ordinary man instinctively revolts at the thought of allowing such carving about, and but few permits are given.

The case with which we are now dealing is one of the most flagrant that has ever come to our knowledge. The wife of a well-to-do artisan was subject to attacks of asthma, and a few weeks ago, while being attended by a local practitioner, developed a rupture of one of the lungs. The doctor advised the calling in of a specialist, Dr. F. Smith, of Harley Street. Immediately upon seeing the patient, Dr. Smith advised her removal to the London Hospital. This was done, and so far as the treatment there of the patient while she was alive is concerned—it was a matter of only a few days—the husband has no complaint to make. What he does poignantly feel, however, is the cutting about of his wife's body after death. We should mention that the poor woman had a great horror of hospitals; and, as the husband sat by her bedside, she asked and he promised that no one should "hack her about," either during life or after death. That promise the bereaved man thought it a sacred duty to carry out. After her death he, of course, had to obtain a certificate. He was told that Dr. Smith would like to make a *post-mortem* before giving it, but he naturally very strongly objected. The certificate was then given, stating that the cause of death was consumption of the throat and lungs. Upon the body being brought home, however, the husband learnt from the undertaker that *a post-mortem had been held*, whereupon he called in his own doctor, and an examination of the body disclosed the fact that such was the case. Then ensued some illuminating correspondence.

The first letter, from the widower's solicitor to the Hon. Sydney Holland, the Chairman of the London Hospital, is dated December 26th, 1912, and runs:—

> I have been consulted by Mr. G. R. Isbell, 22, Gowan Road, Willesden Green, with reference to the terrible treatment of his wife's body after death. Mrs. Isbell died at the London Hospital on the 23rd inst. Mr. Isbell instructs me that he expressly and explicitly told the House Surgeon and Nurse that he would not allow any *post-mortem* to be made. Upon his wife's body being brought home, Mr. Isbell asked his own medical man to see the body, and was then told that it had been opened from navel to breast-bone—doubtless to satisfy the morbid and indecent curiosity of some of the Hospital staff. As this is a gross violation of the express instructions given and in direct defiance of Mr. Isbell's wishes as made known to the House Surgeon and Nurse, he feels, and rightly feels, that the matter ought to be brought to the notice of the Board of Governors, in order that steps may be taken to prevent a recurrence of such abominable treatment. Conduct such as that complained of is calculated to do an infinite amount of harm to the work undertaken by the hospital and will do much to alienate the sympathies of the public which subscribes to and maintains it. I shall be glad to hear from you at once that steps are being taken to prevent the wishes of relatives being callously ignored in future.

To this the Secretary of the Hospital replied as follows:

> Mr. Holland desires me to reply to your letter addressed to him. He is not in town just at present, and he writes to say he does not remember all the facts. I have written to Dr. Smith, of 138, Harley Street, W., who was in charge of the case, and he states he did not know any of the details mentioned in your letter, and carried out a *post-mortem* on Mrs. Isbell in order to avoid an inquest, as he did not know but that some accident had led to the rupture of the lung from which she died. We have his word for his regret that the *post-mortem* was done without consent, but he considered it necessary under the circumstances. I am afraid that I can do no more than give you this explanation of Dr. Smith's. It would seem that Dr. Smith's physician in the hospital, thinking he knew the cause of death sufficient to warrant a certificate, gave it; but Dr. Smith felt he did not know the cause of death and did not know that his House Physician had given the certificate, and did not know that a *post-mortem* had been objected to.
>
> I am very sorry that Mr. Isbell should have his feelings hurt, for at this hospital the Committee are most anxious to consider the feelings of friends in this matter. I might point out, however, that at some of the hospitals in London *post-mortems* are carried out on every patient that dies, and refuse to admit patients to the hospital on any other conditions.

Then, in hot haste—a day later—came one of the Hon. Sydney Holland's blustering, bullying communications, with which our readers are familiar:—

> Sir,—I am a barrister myself. I have had dealings with and business from the best solicitors in London for 30 years and so I am able to judge quite well how far a solicitor's letter is justified, or how much is due to inexperience or want of education, or absence of gentlemanlike feeling. Yours, never mind what instructions you got as to the facts, was grossly rude and certainly libellous. You now write that having heard the facts (only one side of them, by-the-by), you "felt that some ghastly mistake must have been inadvertently made at the hospital." Then, sir, why did you not say so in your first letter instead of writing that you "supposed the *post-mortem* had been done to satisfy the indecent curiosity of some members of the staff"? If what you say now was your feeling —*i.e.*, that a mistake had inadvertently been made—the above sentence is not only libellous, but untrue, to your own thinking.
>
> Any solicitor is justified in writing on his client's behalf to demand an explanation, and when Mr. Isbell chooses to employ one who can write in a manner we have a right to expect from a member of your profession, we shall be happy to explain matters. But no solicitor is entitled to volunteer his own opinion, which is unasked for and quite immaterial to his correspondent, and certainly not to couch that opinion in libellous and impertinent language.
>
> This correspondence is NOT private I presume.

Now we suggest to the courteous Chairman that his tall talk about libel is the merest piffle; that the cause of the death of the poor woman was never for a moment in doubt, and that the *post-mortem* was held merely, as we have said, to further the interests of science, or, in other words, out of medical curiosity.

PETITOPHONES, PERFUMES AND PANELS.

A FEW WORDS ON HOME WORK SCHEMES AND SCHEMERS.

We are often asked by anxious readers for advice regarding the possibility of procuring lucrative home employment, and are unfortunately bound to confess that we are unaware of any genuine work of this description being obtainable. In every case which has come to our notice those advertising such employment invariably demand money on some pretext or other, and with its payment the matter usually ends.

A Wily "Whiteley"!

A poor out-of-work has recently answered several such advertisements, and sends us the communications he has received, all of a printed character, and none deserving serious consideration. For instance, there is an interesting circular from Mr. W. E. Harte, of Holydyke, Barton-on-Humber, a jack-of-all-trades, who, not content with the sweeping description of himself as "factor, manufacturers' agent and advertising journalist," crowds the larger portion of his letterpaper with multifarious offers of such diverse articles as broomstick-fasteners (fiddlesticks have somehow been omitted), clothing, electros for advertising and bicycles. In the space left over, Mr. Harte indicates how the anxious enquirer may "lucratively increase his income from samples." He is convinced that the "fascinating quality" of something he calls the "Fairy-king Scent Wands (Fairy-land solid perfumes for which ladies and entire families are constantly calling)," will enable him to sell them in hundreds. Then comes the offer of some safety razors, "marvellous pocket stoves" and "pure-toned Petitophones." The versatile genius who conducts the business states that he "quotes the largest British firms for the goods," and that this "indicates the wonderful prospect" the enquirer "may also command"—he, however, omits to say whether he actually *sells* goods to the Empire's merchant princes, and even leaves us in doubt whether he is invited to submit his prices or merely sends them in spontaneously, ignorant of whether his doing so is regarded as an intrusion or not.

The Premier Novelty Company.

Another circular worth referring to is that emanating from the Premier Novelty Company, of 5, New Oxford Street, who tell their correspondent that he can "stay at his own fireside and earn a regular income" by operating one of their "Premier Panel Machines," by which the merest novice is, it is asserted, able to reproduce "with amazing rapidity and fidelity" velvet and plush panels of birds, animals, flowers, &c., "of everlasting beauty and a credit to the homes of peer and peasant." All this leads up to an offer to send "a machine and outfit free," provided 12s. 6d. is paid for a postal course of technical tuition, of which 5s. must be remitted at once. The Company state that there is always a ready market for really well-executed panels, and that they "accept and pay for all approved panels." We should be surprised to learn that there is still a public demand for this Early-Victorian trash.

We have heard of such schemes before Invariably, however, people who have sent money in response to such proposition have been disappointed, as the promise to take completed work has always been coupled with some such safeguarding proviso regarding its acceptance as that the sellers of the machine shall be the sole judges of its merit. The unfortunate workpeople are, therefore, entirely in the hands of those who have taken their money, and it has been the general complaint that the "home workers" have been beguiled into purchasing apparatus and material only to be told that the articles turned out were declined owing to being below the standard. Why do not the Company establish a factory and take *all* the handsome profits?

ANOTHER £10 PAID.

We have great pleasure in sending to Mr. Leonard Holtaway, of 65, Calverton Road, East Ham, a cheque for £10 in exchange for the copy of John Bull dated March 29th, and numbered 322888, for which we advertised last week. As will be seen from the announcement on the first page, another £10 is being offered for a copy of our last issue.

CALLOUS COUNCILLORS.

THE BITTER CRY OF THE OUTRAGED POOR.

It is said that Providence tempers the wind to the shorn lamb. Municipal authorities apparently act upon a different principle. Our attention has been called to two particularly unpleasant instances of official oppression. Readers who have visited Ramsgate will remember the row of stalls near the sands, where formerly one might purchase almost anything in the eatable line—from a pineapple to a plate of whelks. These stalls were kept by a number of respectable men and women, who paid somewhat heavily for the right to supply the wants of the public. The little market was conducted in a perfectly orderly manner, and was extensively patronised by the crowds of excursionists who throng this popular resort during the summer months. Now the fiat of the Ramsgate Corporation has gone forth that the stalls must be removed, and a score or so of respectable tradesmen are thus deprived at a blow of their means of earning an honest livelihood. The Corporation order is apparently being executed without sympathy or discrimination. A stall-holder who has conducted his business on the front for more than thirty years without a single complaint, has been turned off without compunction, and is thus left utterly destitute in the evening of his days. We can well imagine that the Ramsgate Council would evince a tender regard for a vested interest backed by wealth and influence, even where public rights were at stake. Poverty is ever the worst of crimes.

The Walthamstow Urban District Council also appear to be somewhat lacking in sympathy for the poor. A recent Closing Order under the Shops Act of 1904 has worked cruel hardship to poor women and girl flower-sellers, to whom the provisions of the Act were never intended to apply. The Council are doubtless within their strict rights in enforcing Closing Orders upon hawkers, but they should have so framed their mandate as to obviate hardship and ensure justice. Our attention has been called to one particularly harrowing case, in which a poor woman, earning but a few shillings weekly, has been compelled to stay idle on one half-day a week, so that her slender income has been still further reduced.

The operation of an Act of Parliament may frequently be modified by enlightened and humane administration.

WORTHY OF HIS HIRE.

THE CINEMA-MAN IN ALL HIS GLORY.

The average frequenter of "picture palaces" gazes with awe at the polite but autocratic manager arrayed in evening dress, who condescends to acknowledge the respectful salutations of habitués of the better class of seat. Alas, many a popular idol has anything but a bed of roses to lie upon! Here, for instance, is a letter received by an experienced man applying for the post of Manager at the Picture Palace, Royal Hall, Ledbury—and whom the writer, Mr. J. P. Pates, addresses as "Esq." :—

> Ledbury is a small town of about 4,000 inhabitants; it is therefore necessary for us to have a manager who will make himself generally useful. The principal duties are—
>
> 1. Looking after the requirements of the weekly artists.
> 2. Preparing, publishing and distributing the weekly bill within a five-mile radius.
> 3. Inspecting bills in the villages to see they are properly distributed.
> 4. Distributing handbills over the same distance when we publish any-in the case of a "special turn."
> 5. Dispatching the films early twice a week and seeing we get the new ones.
>
> If you think the situation will suit you and you are willing to accept the salary of 30s. per week, please send on two testimonials from your last places; also say if you will undertake to provide a bicycle, as this is *imperative*. Our Manager leaves on Saturday, March 22nd, and should we engage you please say if you could come down, say, March 19th to pick things up and make it easier—salary to start from Monday, March 24th? I presume you would wear a dress-suit during the show. Have you any knowledge of dynamos, gas-engines, and wiring?

The recipient of this interesting communication might have parried Mr. Pates's last question with another—has Ledbury a clay soil?

£450 for the Best "Bullet." Over 5,000 Cash and other Prizes.

'WARE WHITBY!

THE "KORONIUM BROMIDE" HUMBUG'S ASTONISHING SOPHISTRY.

We have received a long communication from Mr. H. C. Whitby, of Winsford, Cheshire, in regard to the criticisms we have lately passed upon his methods of business. It will be remembered that, posing as a philanthropic clergyman, he inserts advertisements in various newspapers recommending sufferers from epilepsy to purchase, at a very high price, some alleged miraculous medicine which he has christened "Koronium Bromide," and of which he styles his firm the "sole manufacturers." He defends the deception on the ground that the prescription was given to him several years ago by a Winsford clergyman, who advised him to push it. Says he: "To some people my method of advertising has been open to question, but considering the results were extremely successful, I felt justified in using a little ambiguity in my advertisements, to obtain the enquiries"! Mr. Whitby's "ambiguity" does not seem to be confined to his advertisements, but runs over into his letters—we should much like to know from whose point of view the results were "extremely successful." Surely, had patients been benefited, there would have been the less necessity for advertising at all—as their recommendations would have been quite sufficient to have saved this expense.

THE PROBLEMATICAL PARSON.

Whitby disputes the accuracy of the analysis we published—derived, by the way, from the report of the Government chemists. On this point, we may mention that we have received an interesting letter from an expert, in which he expresses the opinion that the substance is really sodium bromide, and warns sufferers that, in any event it certainly contains one of the many bromide salts—salts which are sedatives, but a continued use of which has a most depressing effect on the nervous systems of people who are subject to fits.

The Winsford casuist contends that "the fact of the clergyman recommending it is of itself evidence that there was some unusual efficacy about it, and it would certainly make an advertisement more interesting, but surely, when the results are good, there is little occasion for anyone to be grieved about it. They paid nothing for the information." This is, of course, pure juggling of the alleged Jesuitical variety, amounting merely to "The end justifies the means." Apart from the fact that we have no evidence whatever that any such clergyman ever existed—a request for his name has met with a refusal of the information—there are few quacks unarmed with a budget of testimonials from wearers of the cloth, who are amongst the most gullible of mortals.

DECLINED WITHOUT THANKS.

Then comes the following: "I will willingly give £5 to your Human Document fund if you will give me the letters or names and addresses of the individuals who have so willingly supplied you with all your information." The offer (in view of the purpose to which the money would be devoted) is tempting, but we must decline, as the communications in question were, of course, made to us in reliance on adherence to the recognised rule of non-disclosure. Whitby, however, has his remedy. If the statements which we have published are untrue, *we* are liable to him in damages, and by any successful action he would, of course, clear his name of the imputations under which it at present rests.

A further instance of Whitby's sophistry—if one were needed—is his extraordinary statement in regard to Mr. Dunn, who, it appears, followed him as tenant at Grasmere House:—"For a week or two I signed two or three letters under his name until such time as I could get my printed literature altered. I casually took this liberty (as he is related to me), never dreaming it was going to stir up a hornet's nest, as you have endeavoured to do." He then coolly proceeds to assert that he has "now answered our charges in full," and winds up with a request that we will "publicly in our paper withdraw the imputations made"—whereupon, "to further show that he has every confidence" in us, he "would not be adverse to inserting his ad."! We must strongly decline to insert such a paragraph or accept his misleading and cruel announcement.

"BALE" BAD BARGAINS.

DEPOSIT DODGERS NEW SUBTERFUGE.

Our readers should be on their guard against the machinations of Watson & Co., or "The Mills Warehouse Company" (they appear to be uncertain by which name to call themselves), of Teakwood Buildings, Otley Road, Bradford—practitioners of the deposit trick. For months they have been advertising "for seven days only," the usual tempting offer of bales containing two or three pounds' worth of goods for a sovereign, the senders of deposits of 2s. finding that they will not be allowed to have the things until the whole amount has been paid. Watson's attempt to meet the inevitable charge of deception by stating in their announcements that the goods will be despatched "on receipt of 2s. deposit and the payment of the LAST instalment of the balance (18s.) at 2s. per month." But surely they cannot parley with their consciences in this way, for if nothing is sent until fully paid for, why should the term "deposit" be used at all? The deception is, moreover, maintained by the printing in large, thick type of the sentence: "For full cash with order we give *free* a pretty cushion cover," the present being obviously intended to be regarded as a *quid pro quo* for the firm not being out of the money for goods already supplied. Four victims have been unsuccessfully endeavouring since December last to get their "deposits" returned. Little wonder, however, that they have failed when even those who pay down the 20s. have ground for serious complaint. A Clapham reader who sent the full amount on March 8th, although he obtained a receipt on the 11th with the promise that the goods would be despatched "in a few days' time," despite repeated requests for either the articles or the return of his money had, up to the time of writing us a day or two ago, succeeded in getting neither—nor even an acknowledgment of his communications. In both the cases we have quoted the persons complaining are extremely poor—indeed, such offers would naturally appeal only to those in humble circumstances.

PRECIPITATE PUPILS.

CINEMATOGRAPH "SCHOOLS" AND SIMPLE STUDENTS.

A provincial reader asks us to warn would-be cinematograph operators against some of the "schools" purporting to teach the work. He tells us that he was recently attracted by an advertisement offering for a fee of a couple of guineas to make students proficient in a fortnight, and then to place them in situations at a commencing wage of £2 a week. After paying the money, he found that the "school" consisted of two small rooms, one containing a couple of wooden desks about 10 ft. long, a few chairs, a blackboard and an easel; the other, a well-worn projector and lantern worth, at the outside, £2. The instructor handed him a book, into which he had to copy some theory—a task which was finished during the first morning. This comprised the whole of the "instruction"—the mysteries of the machine were absorbed in a few minutes by the aid of the other pupils who had also taught themselves. Next day some electrical tables, which our correspondent already knew, were written on the board—and, as far as he is able to say, there they remain to this very day; at any rate, they had not been rubbed out up to the time of his leaving! The scant return for his money naturally roused our friend to wrath; he threatened to write to the head office of the "school"—a threat which did not at all perturb the local manager, who calmly replied that any complaint would be referred back to him. However, in the end he was offered, on payment of another half-guinea, an opportunity of operating before an audience, and this he closed with. But, despite the advertisement, he is still out of a situation, though five weeks had elapsed when he wrote us; his position is, however, pleasant compared with that of other pupils, some of whom travelled considerable distances to attend the "school," their anticipated short stay being spun out at great sacrifice in the vain hope of getting a job—they, in the end, being compelled to return home no better off in knowledge and sadly damaged in pocket. Would-be picture projectors, look before you leap!

"The Convict Woman"—A New Serial—starts in "Mary Bull," out on Friday next.

MEAN MANDARINS.

WILY WATCH COMMITTEE WHICH WANTS WATCHING.

In a recent issue we briefly referred to the circumstances under which Councillor Ross Clyne was censured by the Manchester Watch Committee. It will be remembered that the whole trouble arose over the case of two of the members of the Manchester Police Force, who arrested an innocent man, and were subsequently sued for damages in the Manchester County Court. The action was heard by Judge Mellor, a judge of high standing and repute, the constables being represented by counsel, whose fees were paid by the Watch Committee. After a lengthy hearing, the Judge came to the conclusion that the two officers had acted in an unwarrantable manner, and they were ordered to pay the plaintiff ten pounds as damages for improper arrest. For some reason or other, certain members of the Watch Committee took umbrage at Judge Mellor's decision. A private meeting of the Committee was held, at which his Honour's decision was severely and maliciously criticised—and, as a sort of protest against the action of the learned Judge, it was decided that the ten pounds damages awarded to the plaintiff should be paid by the Watch Committee out of money belonging to the ratepayers of Manchester.

THE SLANDERERS' SUBTERFUGE.

As a matter of duty, Mr. Ross Clyne wrote to Judge Mellor informing him that charges of impropriety were being made against him, by members of the Watch Committee—every fair-minded man will agree that Mr. Clyne was perfectly justified in acquainting the Judge of the serious charges levelled against him behind his back.

The Judge, not unnaturally, strongly resented the imputations of the Watch Committee, and the Committee apparently realised that they had placed themselves in a position of some gravity by their unjustified attack. With perverse ingenuity, they determined to make Councillor Ross Clyne the scapegoat, hoping thus to clear themselves and at the same time to strike a blow at the Councillor who had had the temerity to condemn the spending of public money for an improper purpose and to expose their unscrupulous machinations to the public gaze. Mr. Ross Clyne was formally censured by the Committee "for communicating to Judge Mellor remarks made at a private inquiry." The vote of censure was subsequently confirmed by the City Council, after a discussion in which Mr. Ross Clyne's action was wilfully and unscrupulously misrepresented by his opponents.

MEAN CUNNING UNMASKED.

Two days after the vote of censure was confirmed by the Council, a special meeting of the Watch Committee was held. By this time several of the members were in a blue funk, and their peace of mind received a further rude shock when the Chairman announced that Judge Mellor had intimated his intention of laying criminal information against certain of the members. After discussion, a cunningly devised resolution was adopted, from which we cull the following choice extracts:—

"This Committee having heard that his Honour Judge Mellor has been annoyed by a letter sent to him by Councillor Clyne, desire entirely to dissociate themselves from the statements therein contained."

These words are obviously intended to trick the public into the belief that Councillor Clyne himself originated the charges against Judge Mellor. The resolution proceeds:—

"The Watch Committee further desire to place on record their extreme regret that by the unwarranted action of a member of their Committee, his Honour should have been placed before the public in a position which properly gave him serious ground of complaint."

Was there ever a meaner shuffle?

Fortunately, Judge Mellor is far too shrewd a man to be gulled by any such gush, and in a recent letter to Mr. Ross Clyne clearly intimates that he has known how to distinguish between friend and foe.

On March 19th, Councillor Ross Clyne attended a large meeting of Manchester citizens in order to explain and defend his conduct. A resolution expressing entire approval of his action was carried unanimously, and the unscrupulous conduct of the Watch Committee was severely condemned. We heartily endorse the decision of the meeting.

THE IN-DIGNITY OF LABOUR.

HOW LABOUR EXCHANGES TREAT OUT-OF-WORKS.

A Camden Town correspondent furnishes us with an interesting diary of his dealings with the local Labour Exchange. For the credit of the Board of Trade, if it has any left, we trust his experience is exceptional.

Our correspondent, who is a member of an "insured trade," has had the misfortune to be out of employment for a very considerable time. On November 2nd last, he received the usual card from the Divisional Office of the Board of Trade intimating that he would be credited with 25 weeks' contributions; in other words, he would be eligible to receive unemployment benefit on January 24th.

On January 8th he called at the Camden Town Exchange and signed a claim for benefit as required by the regulations. The very next day he fell ill with influenza. Medical benefit under the Act was not then available, and being out of work he was too poor to engage the services of a medical man. For a week he was unable to make his daily call at the Exchange according to rule. On January 16th he managed to get there and was told to sign a "supplementary claim," stating the cause of his failure to attend during the previous week. He was then assured that he would receive his benefits in the usual course on January 24th.

All the following week he presented himself at the Exchange daily, and on January 24th attended, as directed, to get the money of which he was so sorely in need. He was given a pay voucher by the clerk at the counter, but on tendering this at the office he was curtly informed that they had no authority to pay him, and that he had better call again in a week's time; no explanation was forthcoming.

On January 31st the poor man again sought the Exchange. Once more no money was available; this time he was informed that his original claim had lapsed, owing to his failure to attend daily at the Exchange during the week of his illness, and his inability to produce a doctor's certificate. His benefit, which would have been payable on January 24th, was thus forfeited and his unemployment would be "presumed" to date from the supplementary claim signed after his illness.

Our correspondent was naturally indignant at the unscrupulous way in which he had been jockeyed out of the benefit to which he was clearly entitled. Imagine his feelings when a week later he was offered a paltry seven shillings as a complete settlement of his claim to benefit, and this after he had been out of work for the whole period during which benefits had been payable, and had consequently been unable to afford a doctor. To add insult to injury, he was treated with marked incivility by the lad at the counter, a complaint far too common at the Labour Exchanges.

This case furnishes just one more illustration of the mean and niggardly spirit in which the Insurance Act is being worked. On political platforms ecstatic orators represent the benefits as the well-merited rewards of industry and thrift. In practice, they are too often administered with every circumstance of indignity, and are rapidly coming to be regarded as little better than a pauper's dole.

WHO HELD THE HORSE'S HEAD?

"SMALLER BY DEGREES AND BEAUTIFULLY LESS."

One of Lord Haldane's creations writes:—"I am shortly leaving the Yeomanry, and as I shall have to give in my uniform and other accessories perhaps you could give me some advice. While at camp my great coat was stolen. I reported it to the Sergeant-Major, but he could not find it. My right spur was also stolen out of my haversack. While out at drill one day my hat blew off, and although I dismounted I could not find it. Shall I have to pay for these articles, or do you think I should fight it out?"

This seems a terrible wastage for times of peace. It is a good job somebody held the horse while our young friend was looking for his hat. He should fight it out by all means! If the Commanding Officer gives any of his sauce, report him to the Orderly.

Our Football "Wind Up" Contest. £1,000 Cash Offered. See page 535.

THE NOSE OF WAX.

BALMER. BURTON BOBBIES AND BURTON BENCH.

The decision of the Burton-on-Trent magistrates in a case against a respectable townsman, Mr. W. F. Balmer, has aroused a great deal of criticism and resentment, it being felt that they cannot have adequately considered the facts. On a certain Saturday night the defendant saw a policeman named Stanton with a girl in custody. The officer, in Balmer's opinion, was treating the prisoner in what is, unfortunately, a not unfamiliar, but almost always unjustifiable way, because even if a prisoner is obstreperous, the constable is usually in a position to obtain assistance. Mr. Balmer says that the officer was twisting the girl's forearm one way and her shoulder another, to the point of dislocation. She was in obvious agony, and going up to the constable, the defendant asked him to cease his brutality. The answer apparently was that Mr. Balmer had better follow and make a charge against him at the police station. This the defendant proceeded to do, and it is unmistakable evidence of his strong feeling as well of his sincerity.

Snuffing Out a Complaint.

When he arrived at the station, Balmer says that he was grossly abused by Superintendent Moss, ordered out of the office on pain of being forcibly ejected, and by the slamming of the door in his face prevented from preferring the charge against the policeman which he had come to make. This is hardly the kind of story a man would invent as an afterthought, and if it is true that Superintendent Moss did behave in this way to the defendant, then it is obvious that he is utterly unfit for his post as a public servant.

It is significant that, after all the brutality to which, according to Mr. Balmer, the policeman had subjected his prisoner, the magistrates should have dismissed the charge against her; it is amazing that three or four days afterwards Superintendent Moss should have encouraged or allowed the policeman to summon Balmer for obstructing him in the performance of his duty. Surely it is not obstruction—unwise as it may be—to appeal to a policeman not to use unnecessary violence against his prisoner, for cruelty or the appearance of cruelty always arouses compassion for the victim and strong feeling against the brute in any man worthy the name. It is not obstruction to follow a policeman into a police station with the object which was in Mr. Balmer's mind. Supposing, however, there was technical obstruction. Why, then, was not Mr. Balmer arrested on the spot and the prisoner and he charged together? Evidently because there was nothing in his conduct which justified such a step. Why was he summoned three days after the discharge of the girl? Apparently because, with her out of the way, the actual violence which had aroused the defendant's humane appeal could not be the subject of formal testimony.

A Severe Blow.

There are magistrates who think it their duty to defend and whitewash the police in any circumstances; the Burton Bench appear to be of the number. In inflicting on the defendant a fine of 5s., with £1 costs, the Chairman, Councillor Metcalf, impressed upon his audience that it is not permissible for any person to speak to a policeman in criticism of the manner in which he is performing his duty, and added that complaints must be made at the police-office. This is, doubtless, the wisest method, but Mr. Balmer says that the station authorities received him with insult and prevented him from making the charge by slamming the door in his face, and a policeman named White admitted in court that the defendant did wish to make such a charge. It is not surprising, therefore, that the confidence of the Burton public in their magistrates and police has been seriously shaken, the opinion being almost unanimous that the defendant has been unjustly convicted, and that the question of the policeman's alleged brutality to the girl has not been gone into at all. The policeman and Superintendent Moss have still these allegations to meet, and local residents are not without hope that there are members of the Council with sufficient public spirit not to rest until they are fairly faced. At present, it looks very much as though Justice, in Burton, does indeed possess the proverbial "nose of wax"—and that the local police authorities are leading it by that pliable organ.

MARGARINE MYSTERIES.

AN EVIL COMPANION FOR GOOD MARGARINE.

Situated at Deptford Creek is an establishment called "The Soapery," the proprietors of which are Richard Wheen and Sons, Ltd. Now soap is a most admirable commodity, used externally. To live in the vicinity of a soap factory is not, however, altogether pleasant, on account of the stench arising from the boiling down of rancid fat and other matter. But not one of the uninitiated, probably, would imagine for a moment that food for human consumption is manufactured in a "soapery," and we think it will come somewhat as a revelation to our general readers when we assure them that such is the case. Messrs. Richard Wheen and Sons, Ltd., in addition to turning out bars of soap to cleanse the outer person, manufacture blocks of margarine. Oh, the blessings of civilisation!

THE SUTTON COLDFIELD CASE.

COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEAL AND OUR DISCLOSURES.

The great number of our readers who have written us in regard to the case of Brownhill—the Sutton Coldfield schoolmaster who was sentenced in November last to two years' imprisonment for writing a set of scurrilous and filthy libels to a local gentleman and his family—will be interested to learn that, mainly in view of the further evidence we have published, including the post-cards (a portion of one of which we were the first to reproduce) written by someone since the trial and bearing many of the characteristics which marked the offensive communications in respect of which Brownhill was convicted, the Home Secretary has decided to refer the case to the Court of Criminal Appeal. We congratulate Mr. McKenna upon the bold departure he has made from official precedent, it being, of course, very unusual for a prisoner to have his case reopened in this way after so long a period as five months of the sentence has been served. We are sincerely glad that our efforts should have resulted in procuring this review of the evidence adduced at the trial, and the judicial consideration for the first time of the very peculiar documents which have accumulated since. Pending the decision of the Court we must not, of course, comment further.

A MAGISTERIAL MISFIT.

SIX MONTHS' FOR A BOOKIE AND ONE FOR A BEAST.

Sir T. Marchant Williams, Stipendiary Magistrate at Aberdare, has queer notions of justice. At a recent sitting of the Police Court a bookmaker was summoned, under the Betting Act of 1853, for using his house for gaming purposes. As a matter of fact, he was carrying on a perfectly honest betting business in connection with football matches, and there was no suspicion that he had ever been guilty of any moral offence, although he had doubtless committed a technical breach of the law. He offered to give up the business, and, through his counsel, expressed his regret for what had occurred. He was fined a hundred pounds, with an alternative of six months in gaol. On the same day a brute named Morgan was charged with an unnameable offence against a little six-year-old girl. Presumably the Stipendiary had expended all his moral indignation upon the unfortunate bookie. His sentence upon this filthy scoundrel was imprisonment for one month! If this is Welsh justice, we thank our stars that our lot is cast on this side of the border

"THE COMPETITORS' JOURNAL."

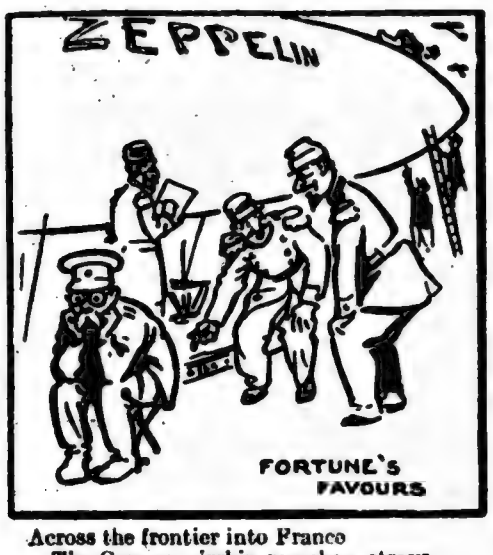
In happy contrast to many fugitive sheets established with the object of furthering the machinations of various swindling competition-mongers, the *Competitors' Journal* is an independent organ whose aim is to keep entrants in the various newspaper competitions posted on matters of interest. At the modest subscription of 6d. a month, this new venture should secure many supporters, as it can hardly fail to be useful to them. It is published from 5, Moorgate Street Buildings, E.C.

Look out for Our Great Summer Competition. Particulars shortly.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

"Down dishes!" foreign waiters cried,
And struck for the reform they wished;
But now the British sort's been tried,
The foreign waiters find they're dished.



Across the frontier into France
The German airship somehow strays,
And ere to turn it has a chance,
To earth an ill-timed visit pays.

'Tis not the tailor, but the "nut"—
According to the latest news—
Whose brain (?) evolves the style and cut
Of coat and waistcoat, hat and "trews."

Lloyd George, who often has denounced
The rich on rumours just as vague,
Now has in turn his morals trounced—
And votes Marconi shares a plague.

From out a field of twenty-two,
All seeming very much alive,
With jockeys keen to dare and do,
Three horses at the post arrive.

To prove that she was not a liar
Or any other sort of wretch,
Miss Lind-af-Hageby, filled with fire,
Talks nineteen hours at a stretch.

TOO FAT?

KICKING OUT A RUNNER-IN.

The West Sussex police force have recently been presented with a brand new Chief Constable. He is a Welshman, and he certainly holds some funny views as regards discipline and justice. It will be remembered that one of his first moves was to pass over a constable for promotion because he was "too fat."

Mr. Thomas Marsh is now an ex-inspector of the local force; after twelve years' distinguished service he has been dismissed at a moment's notice. No charge was ever brought against him, and consequently he had no trial. He emphatically states that no complaint was ever made to him, that at no time had he done anything wrong, nor had he been called upon to report or to give any explanation of any breach of discipline.

A policeman, when he arrests a man, even on suspicion, must bring him before a magistrate and state the case against him. Surely, then, the "arm of the law" should at least have the same common justice meted out to it. To strip a man of his uniform after a period of twelve years' faithful service, leaving him in ignorance of his alleged offence and unable to meet it, is, to say the least, un-English. We know not what the Chief Constable has in his mind in this matter; but we do say that, whatever it may be, it should be openly stated, and Marsh should be allowed to defend himself in a proper manner. At present, it looks as though the Chief Constable had banished his fat to his head.

THE VOICE OF THE CHARMER CHANGED.

THEO.'S THORAX-TICKLER FOR TIRED TIMS.

Some Yankee quacks are exploiting here, under the name of the Theo. Noel Company, Limited, a mysterious specific which they call Vitae Ore. This "voice of life" they would apparently have us consider the veritable life-giving "Voice" that breathed o'er Eden! From 29, Ludgate Hill they issue circulars offering a month's free trial of the concoction, the price (4s. 6d.) being paid at the end of that period if the bold experimenter has derived benefit. In January a Wednesbury lady reader accepted the offer, but it is not surprising to learn she soon found that the stuff did her no good, so her husband promptly notified Noel's accordingly. Notwithstanding this, they, in February, sent in an invoice for the 4s. 6d., and a letter stating that "perseverance is what gives the ultimate and complete cure," some of their cases, it being asserted, having been "severe or chronic complaints, which the first month's treatment did not cure, and sometimes did not even benefit, though they felt their increased vitality." In view of the definite information which had already been given of the failure of the so-called voice to charm away the ills which human flesh is heir to, no notice was taken of this request; after another printed letter to the same effect had been ignored, a real typewritten communication was received, which—probably because the "voice" had got rather strained by this time—spoke in a very harsh, threatening way indeed. It is a great pity that the telling of the tale should have been so marred.

£1,000 for Football Forecasts. No Goals. See page 535.

GREAT SCOTT!

TELLING "TRUTH" THE TRUTH.

We have no greater journalistic ambition than that John Bull should be to the Man in the Street what *Truth* is to the Man in the Club. Indeed, we have been wont to describe ourselves as "The Penny *Truth*"—offering our distinguished contemporary the right to call itself "the Sixpenny John Bull." And more than once recently we have expressed admiration and surprise in respect of the brilliant manner in which, despite the death of dear old "Labby" and his right-hand man, Horace Voules, *Truth* has maintained its great traditions. So much by way of compliment. And now for a few words of mild and friendly protest. In last week's issue appeared a remarkable article, under the historic heading of "Scrutator," entitled "Scott *v.* Beresford—Bottomley intervening." The article is, first, an appreciation of the part played by Sir Percy Scott in connection with the famous Portland signalling incident, and, secondly, a most Mastermanian attempt to whitewash him in regard to the charges we have made—of insubordination, treachery and cowardice.

TELLING *Truth* THE TRUTH.

Now, we have no desire to pursue this very unsavoury subject; and it is not our fault that we are compelled to revive it. The blame rests with either Sir Percy or his friends—one or other of whom obviously "inspired" the article in question. We agree with our contemporary that "the factious insubordination among senior officers, out of which this personal dispute arises, fills an ugly chapter in the history of the Fleet, which everybody hopes is now closed, and nobody wants to see reopened." Apart from the purely literary criticism that the last six words of this sentence are redundant, however, we note that there has admittedly been "factious insubordination" on the part of some "senior officer" of the Fleet, and as the only charge of that kind has been levelled at Sir Percy Scott, we assume that *Truth* is satisfied as to his guilt. And now let us come to our own part of the story. *Truth* has not done us the honour of making itself acquainted with the counts of our indictment. "Why shouldn't Sir Percy, hearing that *his* side of the quarrel was about to be told, order 200 copies of the journal containing it, for distribution amongst his friends?" That is the burden of its argument. But what about the good supply of *posters*—and the further 200 copies and *more posters* to a certain lady who had been actively engaged in the anti-Beresford press campaign? How did Sir Percy know the wording of the posters, and for what conceivable purpose were they required other than for exhibition on the lower decks of the Fleet? And what of our specific allegation that they were so exhibited at the instance of Sir Percy? And that he not only inspired, but actually *wrote*, a portion of the article attacking Lord Charles? Our contemporary has not studied the case, but at the same time it has furnished its *protégé* with his own condemnation for, in blissful ignorance of the facts, it says, "to have procured the publication of the article would have been a far more serious offence, from every point of view, than merely buying copies of it for distribution." Just so—Sir Percy *did* "procure" the publication of the article, and having so procured it he took steps to have it circulated throughout the lower decks of the Home Fleet and elsewhere. We have described this as a "criminal" violation of the King's Regulations, but as *Truth* puts "*sic*" after our adjective, we will qualify it and say a sickly violation.

NO SUDDEN INSPIRATION.

One word more. *Truth* suggests that our belated exposure has been the result of some sudden inspiration, and that nothing had come to our knowledge since the publication of our first article to justify our change of front. Again our contemporary is on the wrong scent. As long ago as August 14th, 1908, we wrote to Sir Percy's Flag-lieutenant a letter in which we called attention to "the gravity of the breach of the Regulations" to which we had been inadvertently made a party, and stating that we considered it our duty "to place the whole of the facts before the Admiralty."

And there we leave it—with the parting shot that "If you see it in John Bull, it *is* so."

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXLI.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A WIDOWED WOMAN'S WOES.

When Dr. Johnson published his famous Dictionary, and was asked by his publisher how it was that he had made a certain mistake, he answered, "Ignorance, pure ignorance." To exactly the same cause must we attribute some marriages. In view of all the poverty that prevails at the present time, it would certainly seem advisable that the last week at Council schools should be devoted to a series of lectures on improvident marriages. Here is a case in which the victim can very well echo Johnson's candid admission.

A girl, bred and born in the country, fell in love and was married at twenty. Four years have passed, and she is a widow with two children. A short story, but full of tragedy! The husband was earning quite a nominal sum weekly, not sufficient to provide for the barest insurance against death—not to name sickness. One morning the mother of his two children was informed that the bread-winner had met his death by accident. Thus was the poor woman left with two children, and without compensation for the loss of her husband, or insurance money. No wonder she has had enough of married life. She now prays for the means to enable her to get back into the country, where she can earn sufficient at dressmaking to keep herself and her two little ones. Perhaps some of our readers will lend a helping hand.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXXIV.—A. M. F., 4s.

CCXXXVII.—"Mary All Alone," 2s.; "Anonymous," 1s.

CCXXXVIII.—"Tuan," 5s.; "Tropical," 2s. 6d.; "Brown," 3s.; J. H., 1s.

CCXXXIX.—X. Y. Z., 1s.; J. H. N., 2s.; A. R. P., 1s.; J. W., 2s. 6d.; "Ardrossan," 1s.; "Dora," 6d.; "Ex-Matlow," 3s.; T. M., 2s. 6d.; C. W. J. B., £1; A. D., 1s.; G. H., 1s.; "Ex-Soldier," £1; "Tropical," 1s.; "Ivy Mary," 5s.

CCXL.—H. R. H., 1s.; "Alas," 2s.; "Little Mossy," 5s.; "Tropical," 1s.; "Ivy Mary," 5s.

Parcels of clothing from C. B. R., Mrs. D. C., M. H. H., M. B., Mr. B., "Yorkshire."

We gratefully acknowledge the receipt of £5 from Mr. J. E. Ashmead-Bartlett, the winner of the first prize in our 23rd "Bullets" Competition. This money we will utilise for the purpose of granting immediate relief to hard cases, pending the publication of appeals.

COLLECTING BOXES.

London.—Mr. C. McCarthy, Messrs. Garcia Jacobs and Co., [illegible] St., Covent Garden, 12s. 9d.; Mr. W. J. Ball, "Printer's Arms," Lower Kennington Lane, 1s.; Mr. W. H. Partridge, 133, Lessingham Avenue, Upper Tooting 1s. 4d.; Mr. H. Gold, 17, Tarale Rd., Streatham, 2s.; Mr. F. L. Williams, 56, Nimrod Rd., Streatham, 2s.; Mr. J. Chesterton, "Faunce Arms," Faunce St., Kennington Park, 2s. 7½d.; Mr. H. Briggs, 50, Newington Green 1s. 5d.; Mr. G. J. Bletsoe, 31, Canonbury Rd., 1s.; Mr. F. Vesco, "Carlisle Arms," 2, Bateman St., 1s. 6d.; Mr. J. T. Gomm, "Bedford Arms," Blandford St., Marylebone, 1s. 4d.; Messrs. S. Cohen and Co., 70, High St., Kensington, 1s.; Mr. T. Matcham, 80, Richmond Rd., Bayswater, 1s. 3d.; Mr. C. H. Elliston, "King's Arms," Moreland St., City Rd., 1s. 1d.; Mr. T. Shields, "The Cricketers," Newington Butts, 1s.; Mr. W. M. Hill, "Crown," Mayfield Rd., Dalston, 1s. 1½d.; Mr. R. Newschwander, Charing Cross Hotel, Strand, 1s. 6d.; Mr. W. M. Pantancy, "The Alma," 175, Westbourne Grove, 1s. 10½d.; Messrs. Bridge and Co., 49, Brompton Rd., 1s.; Mr. E. H. Gilbert, "The Crown," High St., Kensington, 1s.; Mr. H. Parr, "Coach and Horses," Mathias Rd., 1s.; Mr. A. J. Blowes, "The Colville," King's Rd., Chelsea, 1s. 3½d.; Mr. G. W. H. Pryer, "Black Lion," Bayswater Rd., 1s.

Bristol.—Mr. G. Alford, 198, Stapleton Rd., 1s. 3d.; Mr. E. B. Harnes, "Albion Hotel," Cumberland Rd., 1s. 4d.; Mr. G. M. Gould, "Railway Hotel," Stapleton Rd., 1s. 2½d.; Mr. T. Millsom, 122a, Hotwell Rd., 1s. 0½d.

Total £2 5s. 10½d., of which we have allocated £1 5s. 10½d. to CCXXXIX., and £1 to CXL.

"JOHN BULL'S" BOYS.

"Nineteen Scholars of Standard III., Wath Victoria Council School," 2s.; "Bobbie," 4s.; "Shipley Working Man," 1s.; H. H. H., 2s.; J. R. S. (Dartmouth, U.S.A.), 10s.; "Joshua Buggins," 6d.

A Reader Wins £400. Why shouldn't You. Try "Bullets" on page 542.

THE Lightest Hat of its kind in the whole world—weighing but 1¼ Ounces.

A really happy combination of Perfect Comfort and Good Style — suitable for most occasions — Ideal for Negligé Wear, Evening Wear, Garden Wear, Golfing, Cycling, Tennis, Boating, for all but formal occasions.

The "AERO" FOLDING FELT

is just the Hat you want for Lounge, Sport & Holiday Wear.

. . Adaptability is a strong feature of the "Aero." Being extremely pliable, it can be shaped by the wearer to suit his face, his taste, or the occasion—the possible shapes being almost endless in variety. It is made of good quality felt, so soft and pliable that the hat can be folded and put into one's pocket. It is practically waterproof; heavy rain might penetrate it, but would not injure it. It is made in the following colours: Dark Green, Light Green, Brown, Fawn, Drab, Grey, Black and White.

4/6 POST FREE IN U.K. ... ... ABROAD, 5/-

. . This hat can be obtained from any of our branches except the Gracechurch Street one, or post free from our Mail Order Dept., at 388, Strand. In ordering by post please state the size of hat usually worn, and the Colour required. Remittance must accompany all orders, but the hat will be exchanged (if not approved) or money refunded. Please mention "John Bull" when ordering.

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Central Establishment and Mail Order Dept: **388, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.**

97, Gracechurch St., E.C. | 50, Newgate St., E.C. | 23-29, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.
56, Fenchurch St., E.C. | 82 & 83, Fleet St., E.C. | 24 & 25, King William St., E.C.
105, Bishopsgate, E.C. | 29, Coventry St., W. | 118&120, New Oxford St., W.C.

"A Martyr to Indigestion."

Pains Across Chest—Sleeplessness, Sickness and Acidity

REMOVED BY

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP.

Mr. T. Walker, of 103, Geoffrey Street, Preston, Lancs, writes on December 6th, 1912: "It gives me much pleasure to inform you of the wonderful cure your Mother Seigel's Syrup has effected in my case. Some time ago I was a martyr to Indigestion—one of that numerous band who have to carefully consider beforehand every thing they eat, and then all too frequently fail to escape the pains and penalties of Indigestion. Despite my utmost precaution, I used often to suffer the most dreadful pain across my chest and between my shoulders.

"Sleeplessness, too, was another of my symptoms, followed by sickness on rising in the morning, the vomit usually consisting of a hot, bitter fluid. I tried many medicines, but my first relief was brought about by Mother Seigel's Syrup. It took no more than three small bottles of that wonderful remedy to cure me entirely. I have sometimes taken Mother Seigel's Syrup since, but not for Indigestion—for it is, besides what is claimed for it, a wonderful all-round health-giver."

For over 40 years Mother Seigel's Syrup has been removing and preventing Indigestion. There is no better remedy for the common ailments of the stomach, liver and bowels. Carefully note what Mr. Walker says, and don't be put off with substitutes.

The 2/6 Bottle contains 3 times as much as the 1/1½ size. Sold also in Tablet form, price 2/9.

9D. FOR 1/-

NINEPENCE for a shilling: that is all you get to-day.

Since 1900 earnings (wages and salaries) have remained practically stationary.

The cost of living has greatly increased.

With this result, that a shilling to-day goes no further than ninepence did twelve years ago.

During these twelve years, for examples, such necessaries as flour, bread, tea, bacon, cheese, butter and milk have risen something like 27% in price.

YOU cannot reduce the cost of these things; you must buy them: you must go without something to be able to afford them.

Is that pleasant? Does it make life more worth living?

WHY NOT CHANGE IT?

You *can*.

Earn more and then the rise in the cost of living will not be felt by you.

Thousands of those who have asked our advice have *taken* it, and have learnt to earn more. We have trained them to earn more.

Why do you not ask our advice? It costs nothing, and may mean to you, as it has to so many others, the first step on the way to *better pay*. Take "that step TO-DAY."

A postcard from you, mentioning the trade or business in which you are interested, will bring promptly a free descriptive booklet. Address—

International Correspondence Schools, Ltd.,
178b, International Buildings, Kingsway, London, W.C.
(Please use full address to avoid delay).

GREEDY GREGSON.

LIMITED LIABILITY AND LIMITLESS LUCRE.

It is high time that Mr. T. H. Gregson resigned his seat on the Southport Borough Council. Everybody knows that, by the provisions of the Municipal Corporations Act, a Councillor is debarred from trading with the public body of which he is a member. This is a salutary rule, which any self-respecting public man will jealously observe in the spirit as well as in the letter. Our readers may be interested to know how Mr. Gregson and the Southport Borough Council have between them managed to evade such a well-established principle of public law and commercial morality.

It appears that Mr. Councillor Gregson is a coal-merchant, carrying on business with his brother, Mr. W. R. Gregson, under the title of "Smith and Gregson." From 1908 to 1912 the Southport Corporation have bought coal from Mr. W. R. Gregson to the value of £27,675. Mr. Councillor Gregson states that these extensive transactions have been carried out with his brother alone, and that he has not profited by them in any way whatever. In the face of the worthy Councillor's solemn declaration, we can say no more—except to remind him that, while we unreservedly accept his statement, there are a great many people who won't, and that he will be wise in future to take much greater pains to avoid the appearance of evil.

We pass to another matter. Mr. Councillor Gregson is apparently a gentleman of varied interests, for, apart altogether from his coal-dealing and municipal activities, he is also deeply interested in the affairs of the Hindsford Foundry Co., Ltd., of Tyldesley. From 1904 to 1912 the Southport Corporation have had contracts with this Company to the value of £1,405, all of which have been a source of profit to the shareholders. In these circumstances, it is interesting to glance at the list of registered shareholders. It is quite a short one, and we print it in full, begging our readers to remember that Mr. T. H. Gregson is Chairman of the *Finance* Committee of the Southport Corporation. Here are the names:—

Thomas Hodson Gregson. Walter Gregson. W. R. Gregson.	*Directors.*
Alice Gregson. William Gregson, Ann Gregson, Florence Gregson.	*Remaining Shareholders.*

Quite a family party! Nor is this all. Mr. Councillor Gregson, Mr. W. R. Gregson (his partner in the coal business) and their brother Walter, hold upwards of 1,200 shares between them. The remaining shareholders hold but 35! Poor William and the ladies have apparently been thrown in to give an air of verisimilitude to the concern—or to make up the statutory seven.

A little while ago one of the Southport Elective Auditors began to ask awkward questions about the Corporation contracts with the Hindsford Foundry Company, and a somewhat heated debate in the Council Chamber ensued. Councillor O'Regan led the attack, which elicited a statement from Mr. Gregson to the effect that he had never voted on contracts with the Hindsford Company. Apparently the guileless Councillor was content to leave the matter to his fellow-members, to whom possibly a wink was as good as a nod; while, as to the Company, he doubtless had implicit confidence in his partner and his brothers—to say nothing of his sisters, and his cousins, and his aunts.

Mr. Gregson apparently holds that his responsibility ends with the Council of which he is a member, and that if they are satisfied, all is well. In this he is wrong. In his civic capacity he is a trustee for the ratepayers of Southport many of whom are highly incensed at his conduct. He should at once resign his seat and abide by the decision of the electors as to the propriety of his presence among his customers of the Council.

"WHO MURDERED THE GIRL SCOUT?"

As we go to press, Mr. Donald Macmaster, K.C., M.P., and our representative are going through the evidence which it is hoped will bring to the gallows the wretch who murdered little Winnie Baker.

ROGUES AND VAGABONDS.

CIVIL AND MILITARY—A STUDY IN CONTRAST.

A few days ago, in the Midlands, an ex-soldier, who had been decorated with the Victoria Cross, was charged with deserting his wife and family, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment as a rogue and vagabond. The punishment was, of course, inflicted under civil law.

Now, let us look at another case of desertion and see how the military authorities deal with it. A poor woman, living at Poplar, wrote us a few days ago stating that her husband, owing to being unable to get work, had enlisted in the 2nd Duke of Wellington's Regiment, stationed at Dublin. She has four young children. Of course, the man had joined under an assumed name. The fact that this wife-deserter is serving as a bachelor has been brought to the notice of both his Commanding Officer and the Secretary of State for War, but he is still retained in the regiment, while his wife and family are practically starving. Surely, however, he is quite as deserving of the stigma "rogue and vagabond" as was the military hero convicted in the Midlands? The question of the husband's release is a pressing one, as it is rumoured that the regiment is about to proceed to India. The Army Regulations say:—

> If the Parish authorities apply for the man's discharge in consequence of wife desertion, and send a constable with a warrant for his apprehension, the Commanding Officer will, without further authority, discharge the man, "in consequence of his having been claimed by the Parish authorities for wife desertion"; and the discharged soldier will be handed over to the constable. If the Parish authorities do not take the above steps, the soldier will be held to serve, and the Commanding Officer will, after obtaining the necessary evidence in support of a claim for alimony, make application to the G.O.C. for authority to withhold a portion of the soldier's pay for the support of the wife.

In the present case the authorities refuse to move because the wife and children have not become inmates of the workhouse. A fine sample of red-tape!

JUSTICE DENIED.

"THE LAW'S DELAY AND THE INSOLENCE OF OFFICE."

The congestion of business in the Law Courts appears to have reached the chronic stage, but we cannot agree that additional judgeships constitute the sovereign remedy. If every judge was made to earn his pay there would be no necessity for additions to the Bench, while certain simple reforms in legal practice and procedure would speedily result in an immense saving of time. The Long Vacation should be materially shortened. It is a scandal that the principal Courts should be closed to waiting litigants for a period of three months in the middle of the year. Then, again, the cumbrous system of "pleading" in an action-at-law stands in need of drastic revision. There is no valid reason why the hearing of every trifling action should be preceded by the clumsy and dilatory interchange of written documents between the parties, however much the arrangement may tend to swell the incomes of counsel. In all minor actions it should be sufficient for each party to deliver a short note of his "Case," and then let them get to business. Then there is the dreadful waste of time in "watching his lordship's pen." There should be an official shorthand writer attached to every Court. Perhaps some day the Woolsack may be occupied by a man bold enough to brave the anger of the Temple in the interests of the community.

LUXURIOUS LIBRARIES.

"TURNING" BOOKWORMS TRODDEN ON.

Because two assistant librarians who have been in the service of the Bermondsey Borough Council for ten years have applied for an increase of wages—at present 23s. a week—the Council have given them three months' notice. And in a little while, when some of the already highly paid officials of the Council apply for increases of salary, the members will fall over each other in their desire to get in a few words to support the motion. It is the old, old story. To him that hath hundreds a year shall be given, and from him that hath 23s. a week shall be taken away even that which he hath.

A Thrilling New Serial—"The Convict Woman"—begins in "Mary Bull" Friday next.

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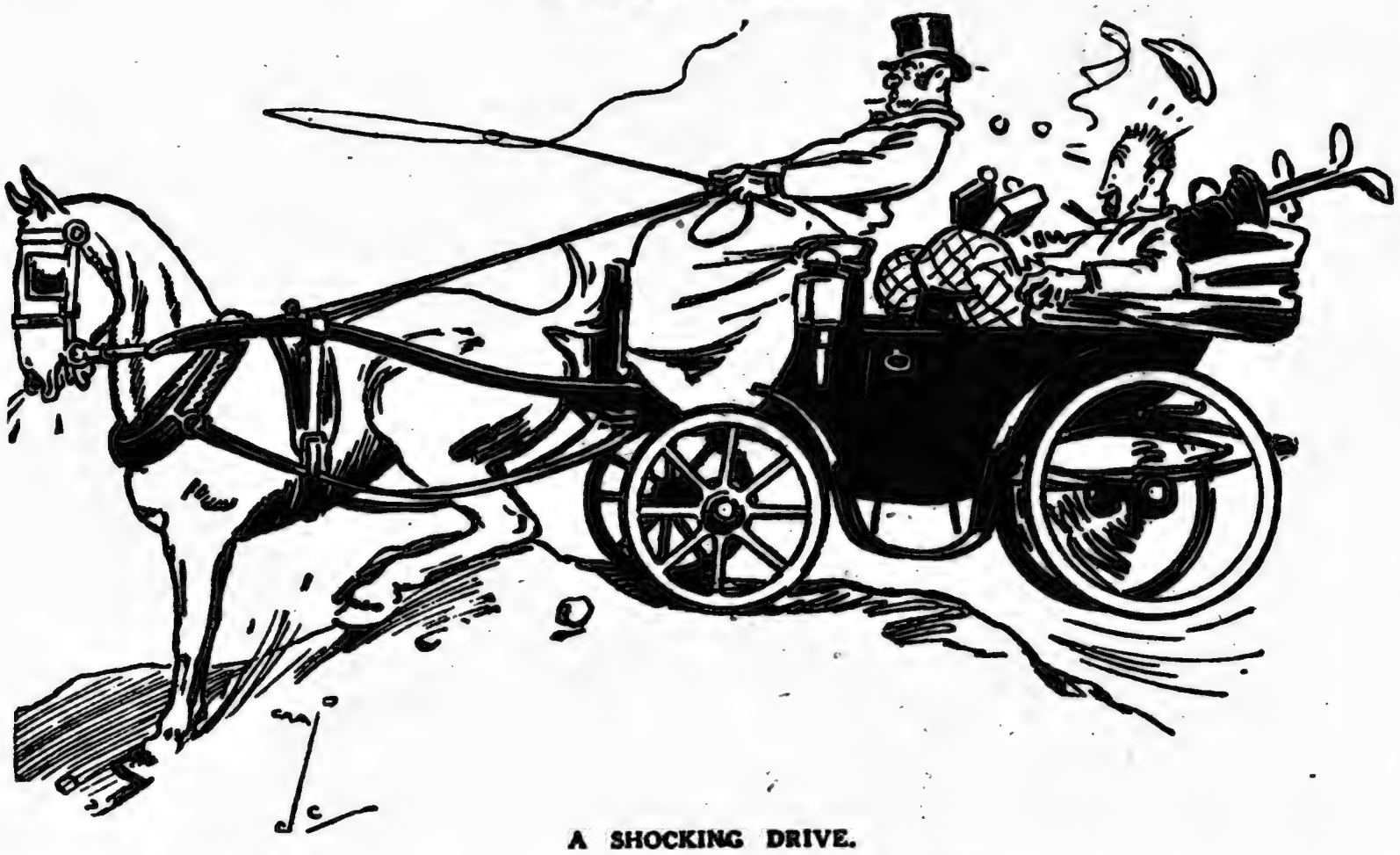

A SHOCKING DRIVE.

HOW I COMMENCED.

LIFE STORIES OF EMINENT MEN AND WOMEN.

By "Retlaw."

Mrs. Pankhurst.

Although it may sound an incredible statement, I was a quiet, inoffensive and obedient child from my birth to flapperhood. I indulged in all the usual simple recreations common to young girls, flirted with modesty and decorum whenever I had the chance, and had no ambition beyond the securing of a wealthy and good-looking husband, and the rearing of a few plump and healthy babies. I found the husband I desired in Dr. Pankhurst, a barrister-at-law and a prominent politician in Manchester, and in due time I was blessed with children. Had I married an ordinary man rather than a celebrated lawyer, the chances are that I should have pursued a quiet and uneventful life of snug domesticity, and never have given a thought to the great question of women's rights and wrongs which I have been instrumental in bringing so conspicuously before the notice of the general public.

But Dr. Pankhurst, like most professional men, was very fond of talking shop, and as I listened week after week, month after month, and year after year to his breakfast table conversation and comments upon topics of the day, my admiration for the male sex began to wane and I commenced to consider the feasibility of taking political power out of their hands, placing it in the hands of women, and revolutionising the social structure in which my own sex at present occupies the degrading position of serfs and slaves. It appeared to me that this could only be done through the medium of the parliamentary franchise, so I commenced to agitate for votes for women, and in 1903 founded the Women's Social and Political Union.

The opinion is generally held that my desire for political equality with men is based on my realisation of the injustices to which we women are subjected. But as a matter of fact that is not the basis of my agitation. I consider that on the whole women have much the better time of it. In ordinary circumstances they are sheltered from the dangers, annoyances, and toil which man, the breadwinner, daily has to face and endure. The law looks upon them with a more lenient eye than it does upon the male delinquent. They enjoy the advantages that arise from the innate chivalry of man, and are not called upon to risk their lives in the defence of their country and the maintenance of law and order. It therefore cannot be denied that in ordinary, normal circumstances, we women have all the best of it. But having so much, some of us wanted more, which is human nature, I suppose. And, as is woman's way, we wanted something that would not be of any earthly use to us when we got it. So I and a few more kindred spirits commenced to clamour for the vote. I had some trouble in persuading my daughter Christabel to take the matter up, for she rather felt that to mix herself up with politics might lessen her chances of marriage. But I overcame her objections and we got to work.

The derision with which we were regarded by the general public enraged us and made us the more determined to obtain our object by fair means or foul, and incidentally caused us to commence a series of vengeful attacks upon the property and peace of people who had never injured us. After a while I got rather tired of the business and cast about for an excuse to withdraw from the movement. But I found to my great annoyance that I had gone too far to recede with honour, and discovered that instead of leading I was being pushed into excesses by the mob of infuriated women I had been foolish enough to arouse and call together.

Still, I reconciled myself to the apparently inevitable and finished up by getting three years' penal servitude for inciting others to commit a particularly senseless crime. But now I have had enough of it. Three years puts the lid on. And when I come out I shall throw up the sponge, marry again—if I can find a man who will have me—and settle down once more to a rational existence.

NEWS FROM QUETTA.

A reader in Quetta, India, sends us a copy of the Station Orders posted there: "Station Orders, by Major-General J. B. Forster, Commanding. Quetta: Wednesday, January 1st, 1913. *Nil.* E. L. Maxwell, Captain, Station Staff Officer, Quetta. Notice. Hounds meet to-morrow at the 4½ milestone Sariab-road at 4.30 p.m." We present our compliments to the Colonel.

Your Football Skill may win you £1,000.

See Our New Competition on page 535.

"If Gamage were my partner"

HOW THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM TO SUCCESS CAN HELP OUR READERS THERE.

A. W. Gamage.

NOT so many years ago the man whose picture appears on this page was the proud proprietor of a half-share in a tiny little shop in Holborn with a frontage of not more than a few feet. Now that business occupies two huge blocks of buildings, and is being added to every day. And its owner has hundreds of other interests as well.

Moreover, this wonderful success is due to his own efforts. He has had no outside "influence" to help him on the road to success. His progress has been due to one thing and one thing only, to his business knowledge, the knowledge that tells one when to buy and how to sell, when to lay down new plant and when to retrench, that shows the way out of difficulties and the best means of seizing opportunities.

What would it mean to you?

What would it not mean to you if you could have such a man with you every day in your work to help you in *your* difficulties, to show you the way to seize *your* opportunities? You must realise that it might mean just the difference between just the mediocre measure of success that attends most hard-working men and the *real* success that comes to the few. Only a few days ago Andrew Carnegie, the great millionaire, told a reporter that "merely doing your duty is not sufficient. You must work with your head, and in addition to obeying orders *work out projects of your own.*"

Now, how are you to lay those projects, if you have no past experience to help you or no substitute for it, such as you would have if only you could have a man like Gamage for your partner?

How can you have it?

Do you know that you *can* have Gamage for your partner, at least as far as the benefit of his advice is concerned? And not only Gamage, but also Sir Joseph Lyons, the famous restauranteur; and Richard Burbidge, managing director of Harrods' Stores; and S. F. Edge, the famous expert on making and selling motor cars, who started as a cycle racer; and James Murray Allison, advertisement manager of *The Times*; and John Lawrie, managing director of William Whiteley, Ltd. Nor are these all, for you can have the advice of many other famous men, such, for example, as Mr. H. Simonis, Director of the *Daily News and Leader* and one of the most able members of the advertising profession in Great Britain.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 60,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

A Book on Business Free.

In this column you will find a special coupon for readers of JOHN BULL, which entitles you to a free copy of an interesting book on business, that may set you on the right road to business success, just as it has set many others of your fellow readers. In itself it is of considerable value to any business man, for it contains actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents, such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc.

But—and this is its most vital point for you—it tells you also *all* about this great "Business Encyclopædia," the work that JOHN BULL describes as "probably the most valuable work that any business man could have." It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

It is only because 60,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it to any reader of JOHN BULL for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything.

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OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Bailie Macdonald, Callander, Scotland.

DEAR BAILIE,—I fear I shall have to place your name on my Magisterial Black List. This letter is a little belated, I admit, for I have a great many other things to do besides watching you, but "better late than never." I wish you to realise, in your own interest as well as in that of others, that I shall speak to you in disconcerting accents if I have another occasion of complaint against you.

My first shock was in the case of the old woman of 60, who was noticed by the police to be drunk—harmlessly, not incapably, drunk—in the street. The night was very wet, and more out of sympathy than anything else, I believe, she was taken to the station and detained there from 6 o'clock on Saturday night till 10 o'clock on Monday morning, when she was sentenced by you, a teetotal bigot, to five days' imprisonment.

The vicious cruelty of the sentence is less in the sentence itself than in the fact that the effect will be to deprive her of her old age pension should she live long enough to become eligible for it. You must have known, Bailie—or if you did not know, ignorance of the law does not recommend your magisterial capacity—that if a person is convicted without the option of a fine, twenty years must elapse before there can be a right to the old age pension; and at 80 this old woman will probably be dead. It may be you made this astounding use of your magisterial power and authority in the interests of the teetotal movement, but if this had been your motive I should have thought that admonishment and recommendation to take a Band of Hope ticket would have sufficiently satisfied the demands of Justice. I had intended to compare your sentence in this case to the light penalty you imposed in another, where a man was charged with a breach of the peace and using filthy language, but perhaps the object I have in mind will be sufficiently served by what I have already said. As a last word, I advise you, when on the bench, to forget you are a teetotal fanatic and to remember that God made you in the likeness of a man. Try to live up to the idea.

JOHN BULL.

To the Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick, Agent-General South Australia, London.

SIR,—A deputation recently waited on South Australia's Minister of Public Works—a deputation representing 300 unemployed waiting anxiously for the result outside the building. In introducing the deputation the Hon. A. W. Styles, M.L.C., told the Minister that there were hundreds of men who had been out of employment for weeks, while one of the speakers said that the men could not even go into the country to find work, for they had not the money to pay the fare. "You cannot expect the Government to be universal providers or universal employers," was the candid reply of the Minister. "When the Government hasn't got the work it cannot create it for you." Yet I do not hear that the Agent General or the shipping agents are warning British emigrants away from Adelaide, and I know that at the moment when the Minister of Public Works was throwing cold water on this workless crowd, ships from British ports were pouring British emigrants into Adelaide.

JOHN BULL.

To Sir Frederick Banbury, House of Commons, Westminster.

DEAR BANBURY,—I see that you have taken the place on the Marconi Committee vacated by Mr. Harold Smith. You are about the last man I should have thought of for the job—being the most resourceful obstructionist in the House of Commons. You are the supreme exponent of "how not to do it," and I am at a loss to know why you should be placed on a committee appointed to get things done. Perhaps you are to appear in a new *rôle*. In any case you are not likely to be a silent member. And I suppose you will begin by asking to have all the witnesses recalled in order that you may show that Falconer is not the only lay cross-examiner on the Committee—*when he likes!* Go ahead; things are very dull.

JOHN BULL.

To J. F. Burbidge, Esq., Vice-Admiral W. M. Castle, and A. J. Abbott, Esq., J.P.'s, Bournemouth.

GENTLEMEN,—A number of Bournemouth residents draw my attention to a sentence of a month's hard labour you recently imposed on a tramp named Curtis. The man was walking along the road at 11.30 at night when he was stopped by a policeman, who demanded to know where he was going. "That's my business," replied the man, "not yours"; which was merely stating an obvious fact. The policeman then questioned him as to where he was "going to sleep," and once again the man gave the obvious and reasonable answer, "What's the odds to you?" "What is your name?" persisted the policeman. Again came the correct and appropriate reply, "It is no business of yours what my name is." Continuing his cross-examination, the constable wanted to know where the man had obtained a pair of old boots in his possession, and as he declined to satisfy the policeman's officious curiosity he was gathered in.

I should have thought that even in Bournemouth a human being would be at liberty to walk along the streets and roads without being stopped and catechised in this way by a policeman.

As I have said, gentlemen, the policeman's conduct was sufficiently astonishing, but what is still more astonishing is that at the police court he charged him and you sentenced him to a month's hard labour, not for breathing at night in Bournemouth, not for stealing old boots, not for addressing the constable in an off-hand manner, but for "lodging in the open air without visible means of subsistence."

The fact seems to be, gentlemen, that the policeman arrested the man for doing nothing, and you sentenced him for being recognised by Superintendent Hack as one who had been convicted on previous occasions. What have you to say, good sirs?

JOHN BULL.

To Miss Lind-af-Hageby, Law Courts, Strand.

MADAM,—I am sure this address will find you. You have made an impression in the Law Courts which will not soon be forgotten.

Like myself, you have eschewed the aid of Counsel, believing that a plain and truthful tale gains little from legal dressing. It is not for me to discuss the merits of your action. I simply hail you as a credit to your sex and as a splendid type of the modern woman at her best.

Your magnificent performance will do more to advance the cause of female emancipation than a hundred broken windows or a score of ruined mansions.

You should have a vote to-morrow, if I had my way.

JOHN BULL.

To Mr. Leslie Henry Fox Kerr, 22, Lancaster Gate, Hyde Park, W.

SIR,—Permit me to add my own to the many congratulations you must have received on the result of your appearance before Mr. Paul Taylor, the metropolitan magistrate. With the fullest sense of my responsibility, I do not hesitate to say that a youth of 19, as you are, who drives a motor-car at 40 miles an hour in the crowded streets of London, dashes into the back of a cab, knocks the driver off his perch, upsets the horse, continues his joy ride at the same pace, and gets off for £10 and costs, is by way of being one of the marvels of his age. Perhaps your aristocratic name and address explain it. Call in at the office any time you are passing and the chief of the Biscuit department will present you with a suitable memento of the occasion.

JOHN BULL.

Canon Browne, Derby Board of Guardians, Derby.

Note you left Board meeting saying you were not going put up with a dirty little rat like colleague Blount. Surely even in heat of debate gentleman of Church should remember he is not member of House of Commons.

BULL.

Rev. S. A. Jones, Rector, Newmarket, Flint.

My attention drawn to your threat publicly burn Welsh Church Bill on steps St. Paul's Cathedral. Queer way to spread the light, isn't it?

BULL.

£450 for the Best "Bullet." Over 5,000 Cash and other Prizes.

THE POT AND THE KETTLE.
(TO SAY NOTHING OF THE POKER!)

BONAR LAW (The Kettle): "Getting pretty hot, isn't it, Asquith?"
ASQUITH: "Wait a bit. It'll be YOUR turn next."

LAW FOR THE MILLION.

[Pending the establishment of the "Lay Lawyer," which has been delayed by a variety of causes, we propose, from week to week, to deal with some aspect of the law, as it affects the "Man in the Street," as the ordinary citizen is called.]

The Law of Distress.

Few laws have worked graver injustice to the poor than that which enables a landlord to distrain for arrears of rent without legal process. We are constantly receiving complaints of the harsh and tyrannical fashion in which distress is frequently levied. A great many tenants are ignorant of the exact extent of the landlords' powers, and there can be no doubt that flagrant illegality frequently goes unchecked.

The main features of the law on the subject may be thus briefly summarised:—

According to the strict letter of the law a landlord may distrain for rent on the day after it falls due. No application to the Court is necessary.

Distress is usually levied by a bailiff.

The bailiff must be armed with a warrant signed by the landlord, or his agent, stating the amount of rent due and with *a certificate* from the County Court Judge.

No distress may be levied after sunset.

The bailiff may break inner, but not outer, doors. The goods must be held for five days, during which the tenant may redeem them by payment of arrears and costs. After this they must be sold by public auction.

A lodger can protect his goods by giving notice to the landlord.

What usually happens is this. A bailiff, more or less disreputable in appearance, comes and "squats" on the premises for the requisite five days, helping himself pretty liberally to anything eatable or drinkable within reach. At the end of this period a "public auction" takes place in a poky, private room of the house, packed to suffocation with hawk-eyed dealers, to whom the obliging bailiff has given a friendly tip. A "knock-out" sale takes place. The unfortunate tenant's cherished possessions are disposed of for next to nothing, until a sufficient sum to pay rent and costs has been realised. He is then left to contemplate the ruins of his home.

We invite attention to the following hints:—

The tenant should inspect the bailiff's warrant, and check the amount of rent owing. He should also call upon the bailiff to produce his certificate. If he does not possess one he should be promptly thrown out.

If the tenant tenders the amount of rent due, the bailiff is bound to accept it, *and no charges are payable.*

The bailiff cannot legally touch the bedding or wearing apparel of the tenant or his family, nor the tools of the tenant's trade.

The tenant can get the sale postponed for fifteen days by giving written notice to the landlord. He must give security for costs.

If the tenant so chooses, he may, in writing, require the landlord to convey the goods to a proper auction mart, where the sale can be conducted with fuller publicity and under fairer conditions than are possible in a private house.

A scale of the bailiff's legal charges may be obtained at any County Court. A copy of the scale is on the bailiff's certificate.

By availing themselves to the fullest extent of their legal rights, tenants may do much to mitigate the severity of the law. The bailiffs know the law, and they dare not resist the legitimate demands of the tenant.

To sweep away the anomalous Law of Distress will be one of the first duties of a Business Government.

Pending this desirable consummation we call for the following amendments:—

No landlord should be permitted to distrain without first getting a warrant from a County Court Judge. The tenant should be given an opportunity of stating his case and effecting an arrangement with the landlord—as in the case of actions for debt. All sales of distrained goods should be conducted in a public auction room, except at the request of the tenant for a private-house auction.

The first of these reforms would do much to obviate the hardships now suffered by defaulting tenants. The latter proviso is a simple measure of justice.

THE NEXT WORLD.

TWO IDEAS ABOUT THE FUTURE.

By Richard Morton.

I.—The One Place.

The young man had dropped into an inheritance of ten thousand a year, and, unlike so many young men of the day, he found it quite possible to live within his income.

Not that he stinted himself, for he did nothing of the kind. He lived in the lap of luxury, and he saved none of his money, but he did not spend more than he got. In this way he found contentment and enjoyment, for it is wonderful what a lot of nice things ten thousand a year will procure for you. If you are in doubt about this, you have only to try it.

Of course, he had his flat in town, his box in the country, his cars, his club, his golf, and lots of other little things that a rich young bachelor finds necessary.

He had the privilege, for instance, of calling in at certain snug and cosy rooms in Kensington, and he exercised this precious privilege the other day. As there was no matinée, the beautiful young actress was able to preside at a delicate luncheon for two, divinely cooked and discreetly served.

After lunch followed, in natural sequence, coffee, liqueurs, and cigarettes. The young man was in high feather. Everything was so perfect—the food, the dessert, the wine, the coffee, and the girl. Small wonder if he became a little exhilarated. The head of an anchorite would have been turned in such circumstances. And this young man was not of that kind.

He was of human flesh and blood, young, eager, happy. And so was the girl.

She had made him sit in the big, soft, easy chair, and she perched herself tantalisingly on the arm of it. And they looked at one another through the rings of perfumed smoke from their cigarettes.

Presently he touched her hand, and then her sleeve. He slid his arm around her waist, and gently drew her towards him. She did not resist. When he kissed her, she kissed him. He hugged her close, thrilled with ecstasy. He felt he had reached the summit of happiness.

"Dearest," he whispered, as he gazed into her swimming eyes, "*Heaven* can be no better than this."

II.—The Other Place.

A little old man was looking for work. Scarcely anybody listened to him; the few who did give him a second thought asked for his character. He said he had not one. Then they noted his close-cropped head, and his pasty face, and his hang-dog look, and mentally ejaculated, "Gaol-bird!"

He was, in fact, not long out of prison, having served the best part of seven years for a crime of which he still averred he was innocent. Innocent or guilty, the conviction counted against him, and the bar was up at every door on which he knocked.

Some nights he risked arrest by sleeping out. Some nights he sought the questionable comforts of the shelter. He had no food beyond the crusts he begged or picked up. He was racked with consumption; he was burning with indignation against a world that would not listen to him, that refused him another chance.

He met men who incited him to steal, who laughed at his misery, and bade him do as they did. If you want a thing and see a thing, take it, they told him. "But that would land me back in prison," he protested. "It lands most of us there in turn," they replied; "but isn't it better to be fed in gaol than starved outside?"

Down a dark alley he heard screams. A man was knocking a woman about. The poor, harmless fool, weak as water, interfered. So the man hit him instead of the woman, and he tried to strike a blow in return. Thereupon the woman turned upon him with the claws of a fury and tore his face open with her nails. "Take that!" she screamed. "Take the Ten Commandments down your ugly face for 'itting my man!"

He staggered away into a main street. "Take him to a hospital," said somebody. "Come along o' me to the station," said a constable; "you're the worst d. and d. I ever saw."

The man collapsed in the cell. "Let me die," he moaned. "*Hell* can be no worse."

Your Football Skill may win you £1,000.

See Our New Competition on page 535.

GRAVES RENOWNED WATCHES

The Graves English Lever is the finest Watch Offer in the World.

5/-

Everything which goes to the making of a perfectly satisfactory & reliable Watch is included in this magnificent English Watchmaking Masterpiece. Sterling Silver or Rolled Gold Cases, as preferred. Keyless or Keywind movement. Chronometer Balance, Jewelled Escapement, and every modern improvement. For a payment of 5/- NOW, we deliver this superb English Lever Watch, strictly subject to your approval, and if considered quite satisfactory, balance is payable in 9 monthly payments of 5/-

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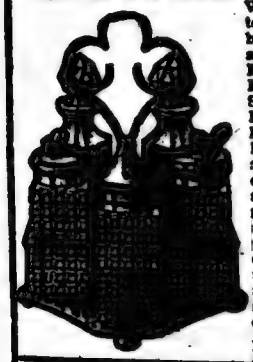

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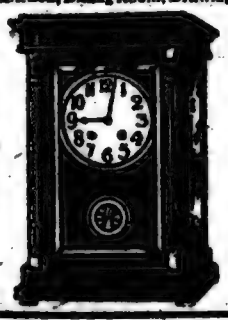

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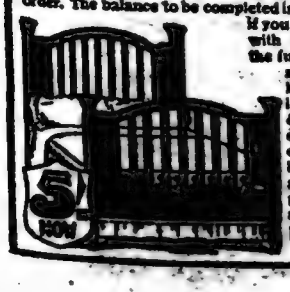

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A copy of our latest Catalogue of high-grade Footwear for Men, Women, and Children should be in every home. This Book is sumptuously illustrated with photographs taken direct from an extensive selection of Boots and Shoes of the very finest quality, which are made on the latest hygienic principles, guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction in wear, fit, and finish, and supplied on Easy Monthly Payment Terms or liberal Discount is allowed for Cash with Order.

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DO YOU KNOW that the household dust literally teems and swarms with disease-carrying Bacteria and deadly microbes, which perpetuate chronic ill-health? Old style brush-and-duster methods merely stir up the dust to impregnate the atmosphere over and over again. Real relief from the dust nuisance, and the discomfort and endless labour which old style dust-fighting methods involve, is only to be got by installing a practical, up-to-date Household Vacuum Cleaner. The Graves 'Britannic' Dust Extractor embodies the experience of Ten Years of progressive development in Vacuum Cleaner construction; it is in every respect a reliable and efficient machine, and absolutely the greatest household boon of the age. Without moving anything, it sucks the dust out of your Carpets, Curtains, Cushions, Bedding, Furniture, and cleanses and purifies everything it operates upon.

WE DELIVER the Graves (MODEL A) Britannic Vacuum Dust Extractor with all accessories carriage paid to approved orders for 6/- Now. We invite you to thoroughly test the machine in your own house, and if entirely and completely satisfied, the balance may be paid by twelve monthly postal payments of 6/- It is important to understand that you are under no obligation whatever to keep the machine unless you are fully satisfied after full trial, and convinced of its value and ability. Failing this we will immediately refund your money in full, without any discussion whatever, and pay the return carriage charges on the machine.

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TAMMANY TACTICS.

QUEERING THE PITCH FOR THE GUARDIANS' ELECTIONS.

The London Guardians' Elections are now on, and the good old Party game is in full swing once more. The Holborn Conservative Association have taken time by the forelock and are already adopting drastic measures to compel candidates to "toe the line." It happens that the Board of Guardians recently agreed to a scheme for the inclusion of the Poor Law District of St. Giles in the Holborn Union. The proposed change was unanimously approved, irrespective of Party proclivities, but for some reason or other the scheme seems to have been unacceptable to the local Conservative caucus. No sooner was its adoption announced than a special meeting of the Committee was convened for the purpose of securing candidates pledged to work for the rescission of the resolution.

This arrogant attempt by a Party clique to declare and control the policy of a responsible public authority is keenly resented in the Borough. A correspondent furnishes us with a copy of a form which has been issued to intending candidates, in which they are invited to condemn the amalgamation scheme. No candidate will receive the blessing of the caucus unless he is prepared to offer uncompromising opposition to the change of boundaries—not on the merits of the question, but at the simple bidding of the Party junta. It should be remembered that Holborn is a strongly Conservative constituency, and that the Party organisation is a powerful one. A candidate who incurs the displeasure of the "bosses" enters the electoral struggle with a heavy handicap.

We trust, however, that the parochial electors will put Party feeling aside for once, and thus checkmate this impudent attempt to stifle independent judgment and to control public policy in the interests of a handful of official politicians. It is a monstrous thing that a secret Party conclave should be permitted to menace the public careers of men who have acted in what they conceive to be the interests of efficient Poor Law administration.

The grievous incubus of Party politics in national affairs already weighs heavily enough upon the citizen, without his being saddled with the Old Man of the Sea in matters municipal.

OUR 24TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT GETS NICE ITEM TO AUDIT.

Mr. R. Moir Davie, of 15, Plewlands Terrace, Edinburgh, the winner of the First Prize of £400 in our 24th "Bullets" Competition, is a chartered accountant on the audit staff of an Edinburgh firm engaged in that profession. He has now an interesting item to audit in his own pass-book. Although Mr. Davie's position in life is superior to that of most of the winners of the big "Bullets" prizes, he can, he tells us, find good use for the money, intending to invest a considerable portion of it. He was, of course, delighted at his great success, while Mrs. Davie naturally shared his pleasure. Neighbours and friends have showered hearty congratulations upon him. They unanimously acclaim "Bullets" as a fascinating skill contest, and are convinced that the judging is careful and capable—that this, indeed, is ensured by the system of reading every coupon twice. Mr. Davie has been a most persistent "tryer" for many weeks. Believing that "It's dogged as does it," he persevered, and has now reaped the reward. He is but 28 years of age, and the winning of this big prize forms the most exciting event in his life so far.

The original of the £400 cheque will be on view in the window of Mr. J. B. Frazer's newsagency, 134, Leith Street, Edinburgh, from the 10th to 12th April; and in that of Mr. P. McInnes, 87, Nicolson Street, Edinburgh, from the 14th to the 16th. We much regret that, although the cheque was forwarded to Mr. Davie on the 2nd inst., it had not up to the time of going to press come back to us after being paid. We shall, however, reproduce it next week, together with that paid in our 25th Competition.

OUR PENSION WINNERS.

Next week we shall publish some interesting personal particulars regarding the four readers who are sharing the Pension Prize of £3 a week for Life in our Great Football Competition.

Full particulars of this splendid 20-h.p. Motor-car, and the thousands of other prizes suitable for ladies and gentlemen, any of which YOU can win, are to be found in each packet of

GODFREY PHILLIPS'
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HOURS OF BUSINESS: Oxford Street—9 till 8; Saturdays 9 till 1 o'clock. Mare Street—9 till 9; Thursdays 9 till 1 o'clock.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 540.
For Sporting Replies, see page 544.

"T. K."—All coupons bearing addresses elsewhere than in Scotland are eligible in our football competition.

H. F. K. (R.M.S. *Princess Maud*).—We are unable to say whether any Member of Parliament still refuses to take his salary, but we believe not. Several, however, give the money to local hospitals; whilst others have offered to hand their salaries to the local authorities of their constituencies, in relief of rates—but such offers have, we believe, invariably been declined.

"ADMIRER OF J.B." (Edge Hill).—Your suggestions *re* our method of judging "Bullets," are absolutely devoid of foundation. We should be pleased to allow you or any other competitor to see the judging, if you care to do so.

E. A. T. (S. Belgravia).—Advise your friend to have nothing whatever to do with H. B. Edwards, Clyde House, Hampton-on-Thames. It is the 2s. fee he is after.

"NATIONAL" (London).—The various quotations which we have printed from time to time respecting Party Government will doubtless find a place in our forthcoming "Business Government Handbook."

G. H. P. (Hebburn-on-Tyne).—We cannot tell you where the late Mr. Marcus Bebro died. As regards the date, from the best of our recollection, it was five or six years ago.

"ENQUIRER" (Gerrard's Cross).—*Of course* Mr. Lloyd George pays super tax on any income which his investments may bring him, over and above his £5,000 salary.

W T. D. J. (Scarborough).—We are not perturbed by the resolution passed at the recent meeting of the Lancashire Newspaper Society condemning newspaper competitions. Their claim that such competitions "detract from the dignity for which British journalism has so long been pre-eminent," is only another illustration of what a section of it has been equally pre-eminent in.

P. R. L. (Alberta).—Glad you appreciate us. Your admiration *must* be warm when it induces you to sit down and write us with the thermometer 50° below zero.

W. H. (Reading).—Glad you think that sight man is genuine. All we can say is that we would not trust ours to him.

"NECTAR" (Oxford) confirms the information we have received from various sources regarding the growing unrest in South Africa, owing to the irreconcilable temper of the Dutch element. In short, as we have before prophesied, there will be a rare old Botha in South Africa ere long.

F. A. H. (Coventry).—What we have said, we *have* said. We know all we want to know of the gents at 260, Westminster Bridge Road.

"CIVIL SERVANT" (Belfast).—The officer of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry—a regiment stationed at Fermoy—who ordered a sergeant to take the shamrock out of his cap and was met with a refusal, thoroughly deserved the *mauvais quart d'heure* which the General-in-Command gave him. There may be no snakes in Ireland, but there *are* some asses.

J. C. (Hyde).—Sorry you were fined 5s. and costs for being drunk and disorderly when you were not, and that the police assaulted you horribly without the slightest provocation. Perhaps it was another case of mistaken identity. They may have thought you were a punch-ball.

W. E. D. (Nottingham).—It is very kind of you to send us so many beautiful verses of your own composition. As you remark in No. 2, "£1,000,000 is put aside, for Britain's aerial fleet, Lest in that great and awful day, We chance might see defeat." We thought you were going to say "They might cut off our meat"; but all's well that ends well.

"EAGER" (Leicester).—No; there is nothing illegal in your sharing your book of John Bull Derby Sweepstake tickets with your friends. On the other point, write to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland—which is sufficient address—but don't forget that the postage is 2½d.

S. C. (Edmonton).—It is only another instance of the sloppy administration of the Insurance Act. We trust your worldly fortunes have by this time improved.

J. W. (Atherton).—It was our impression that the clothes of colliers were searched before they entered the pit, but you inform us that this is not done until the men are underground. We agree that an above-ground search would "lessen the danger."

T. R. (Edinburgh).—Sorry we cannot tell you anything about "the condition of employment in West African trading houses," except that the conditions are probably better where you are. However, some of our readers thereabouts may be able to tell you more.

F. C. (Pimlico).—We do not think that the man Gardener could be tried again for the Peasenhall murder, except in the event of new evidence coming to light. A jury twice failed to agree, we believe.

E. B. S. (Barry).—Thanks for the advertisement which you have cut from the *Vancouver World*, and which is that of a man who, addressing contractors and employers, asks, "Have you some work for me?" The fact that he has invented several perpetual machines, one of them "very good," suggests a screw loose somewhere. A man whose brain wanders around perpetual motion is a fool.

"GRATIFIED" (Southampton).—Thanks that you have helped to feed us, from the day that gave us birth, and made other people read us while we salted Mother Earth; also that at "Bullets" proper you have tried your prentice hand, sorry that three came a cropper, glad the next one woke the band; though it didn't get a centre, still it's good to score at all, when so many thousands enter who can never hit at all.

F. A. (Ongar).—The Hove schoolmaster who refuses to employ Irish or Scotch assistants because of their accent is probably vain of his descent.

E. A. (Bradford).—You are too clever for us. We should not be surprised to hear that you even know how to poke your neighbour's fire.

F. G. R. C. (Shaftesbury Park).—It is the chronic fault of nearly all Labour papers, whether "owned and controlled by the Labour movement" or otherwise, that they do not compare favourably, as newspapers, with the "capitalistic" competitors.

M. P. (Dutch Borneo), who is "right in the jungle about 80 miles from his neighbours," manages to get only about two JOHN BULLS a month, because too many people are studying English *en route*. This strengthens our determination always to speak "plain English."

J. T. (Ealing) has overcome the difficulty of obtaining 6d. postal orders, of which there appears to be a shortage all over the country, by persuading her complaisant husband to join her in the "Bullets" Competition, so that the amount is made up to 1s. How admirable is the ingenuity of woman!

H. W. (Bath).—Apropos of our article some time back under the heading "A Black Preacher's Brown Baby," you must not think that because we slated the coloured scoundrel we are not equally down on immoral whites who leave piebald piccaninnies behind them in foreign parts. You could not have read us attentively, else you would not charge us with such an inconsistency.

W. W. (Dundee).—It is ridiculous for the Postmaster to say that the printing on the face of the envelopes you have used obscures the address, and that you must not send any more through the post. We are not surprised that you intend to continue using them, and "see what happens."

"The Convict Woman"—A New Serial—starts in "Mary Bull," out on Friday next.

"AN ADMIRER" (Bournemouth) is one of a great many who have been good enough to inform us of the circumstances in which the historic phrase, "God damn the Sultan," was uttered by the late Dr. Parker at the City Temple. If we receive many more communications on this subject we shall be in serious danger of repeating the words with startling emphasis.

A. F. (York) suggests that another means of swelling our Human Documents' Fund would be to make a rule that a penny stamp should accompany all "Bullets" coupons. That, however, would not be voluntary charity, which is the only true sort. What have our other readers to say about it?

E. G. (Sunderland) declares that the following inscription appears on the front of All Saints' Parish Hall, Fulwell Road, Monkwearmouth:—

September 1907
When the fire of the Lord fell
it burned up the debt.

If the fire brigade had appeared on the scene the result would have been liquidation, we presume.

"SUSPECT" (Kent).—We are afraid you will never see again any of the £3 18s. you have paid to W. Plant and Co., of 414, Stockport Road, Manchester. The name alone should have warned you.

F. E. C. (Chiswick) sends us a document she received from the Star Window Cleaning Co., of 186, North End Road, Kensington, which is headed in red ink, "Notice before proceeding in the County Court as per 51 and 52 Victoria, Cap. 43."—sounds awe-inspiring. It appears that some time ago she saw a man cleaning windows a few doors away and got him to clean hers; he then asked her to sign a paper, which she did without knowing what it was. After a few visits, as she considered the work indifferently done, she told him not to call again. It is now alleged that she signed a contract for one year. As F. E. C. is not yet 21, we advise her not to be afraid of the red ink notice, but to defend any proceedings that may be taken, on the ground of infancy, and also set up her plea that the work was not done in a skilful and workmanlike manner.

G. B. W. (Leeds) informs us that about 24 years ago a child threw two £100 banknotes belonging to him into the fire. Unfortunately, he was unable to ascertain the numbers. He has been in communication with the Bank ever since, but they still tell him he must wait an indefinite period before they will pay. We think he will be lucky if he ever gets the money. He must have been rich 24 years ago to be able to let a child have such expensive playthings.

M. B. B. (London, N.W.).—If a person is sentenced to a term of imprisonment at the sessions, the time begins to run from the first day of the sittings, not from the date of his arrest. A person may be in custody several weeks before he is brought to trial, but the Judge takes this into consideration when passing sentence. It is certainly hard luck on those found "not guilty."

R. A. U. (Forest Gate).—Your postcard says, "Please let me know the best way to send to India to a soldier in Quetta." Send.

Y. H. (Leeds).—We do not recommend dealings with any debt-collecting agencies. Some of them are not much better than blackmailing institutions which prey upon both the debtor and creditor. Why not use the ordinary process of the law? Surely summonses are cheap enough?

J. E. (Liverpool).—You will "be very much obliged" to us if we expose the Egremont and New Brighton Ferries Co. for bringing you home on a luggage boat or cattle boat at 7.15 p.m. last Bank Holiday Monday. "There were dozens of women with little children on it, packed like herrings, no seating accommodation, also very poorly lighted." Now be very much obliged.

"A CONSTANT READER" (no address) inquires whether he is forced to close one half-day a week. What's his business? It all depends on that. For example, he may supply a poached egg to be consumed on the premises, but may not sell a raw new-laid one for a sick person.

J. A. A. (Bedford Park).—The real Shukri Pasha, the gallant defender of Adrianople, is bearded like the pard, and our contemporary's photograph is no more like him than it is like Father Christmas.

R. H. W. (York).—Much obliged, but the proceedings of the Scalby Council on this occasion are not sufficiently out of average form to arouse our ire.

B. T. (Honor Oak Park).—We certainly do not approve of Dixon and Co.'s (42, Junction Road, London, N.) method of extracting 7d. from you for a sample of "Mousta," the so-called moustache grower, and then, instead of forwarding the trial box, demanding a further 1s. 11d. for a "complete treatment." We exposed this trick years ago. But does any sane man want to grow a monstache, or any other facial hirsute disfigurement?

J. C. (Burnley).—If you are a constant reader, as you say, why do you ask us about "Captain Rand," the "Lucky Stone" charlatan? We have constantly exposed him.

H. C. B. (Reading).—We note what you say as to the treatment of girls by the Berkshire Printing Co., Ltd., Reading. If their grievances are as you state them, why do not the girls combine with a view to obtaining speedy remedy?

G. W. (Knowle).—If you give a week's notice before noon on a Saturday, you are entitled to leave at midday on the following Saturday, unless there is anything in your agreement to the contrary.

W. B. (Glasgow) relates that at Selby, Yorks, the following notice was displayed, arousing great indignation in passers by: "Olympia Oil and Cake Co. Wanted, a few *respectable* girls from 15 to 18 years of age. Wages 6s. per week." Well, what's all the fuss about? We daresay there are a few of the other sort in Selby, as there are in most places.

T. B. B. (Eastbourne).—Write to the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents (19, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane) for the Register of Patent Agents. Select a patent agent from the list, and get into communication with him. But you must be prepared to spend a few pounds. An invention cannot be patented for nothing, whichever way you go about it.

"EVELYN" (Bolton).—Have nothing to do with the International Institute of Beauty Culture, of 260, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E. It is simply an offshoot of the Psycho Success Club—a Yankee flat-trap to extract money from English fools.

E. C. B. (Blackpool).—The Credit Supply Company, of Exchang Buildings, Norwich, is run by a shark called Frederick Georg Potter, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment in 1911. Is that enough for you?

A. H. S. (Northampton) tells us that, though he is but nineteen he is "placed with the misfortune of a T.B. hip," and is an orphan. He is well and strong, and able to do his own work in the boot and shoe trade, but can obtain no employment in a factory because of his crutches. He, therefore, very properly wants to be doing something or learning a trade, as he objects to being dependent on his mother all his life. He asks if W. Plant and Co.'s incandescent mantle business would be of any use to him. We are very glad he has applied to us before sending them any money, as this is a swindle we have often exposed. Alas! that these despicable concerns should prey upon such unfortunates.

F. C. (Barnes).—"What age is Marie Lloyd?" Ladies never tell, and we never ask.

"A SUFFERER" (Nottingham).—As your husband was a passenger in the *Titanic* and lost his life in the historic wreck, you have a claim for compensation against the White Star Line. What you are offered by the Relief Committee need not prejudice that claim if you are very careful what papers you sign.

E. A. B. (Eastwood).—Your allegation that "a constable in the Derbyshire Police Force, stationed at one of the little villages in the Alfreton district, has just been asked to retire because he cannot make any cases" is serious. Are you sure he has not had to retire because old age has crept over his whiskers?

T. F. (Walsall).—Of course your wife and you are entitled to the custody of your child, not your mother-in-law. If she will not let you have it, apply for a summons in the police court. Dear! dear! what a lot of trouble some mas-in-law do cause!

"NOVO" (Newcastle).—Whether teachers and headmasters "are required round about Adelaide, South Australia," and whether you would be likely to better yourself out there as a schoolmaster, are questions which you should ask the Agent-General in London to answer. He is the Hon. A. A. Kirkpatrick.

M. T.—There are many inspectors under the Shops Act, and they are all trying to distinguish themselves. If your employer is endeavouring to evade the Act, you should give one of them a private hint, and he will come down like a ton of bricks, and your master will be heavily fined.

E. R. (Shepton Mallet).—As you mention, "The chance of women getting the vote, Is, I think, now quite remote." On the other hand, You have a chance of hearing curses If you don't give up writing verses.

S. M. (Bishopsgate).—What on earth have you to complain about? Your landlady tells you she wants your rooms as she can let them to better advantage. You reply, week after week, that you will go as soon as you have found a suitable place. Now she has served you with formal notice, and you want to know what she can do if you don't go. She can apply to the police-court for an 'Ejectment Order," and the Court may allow you a further three weeks, after which you can be forcibly removed.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Our Football "Wind Up." £1,000 Cash Offered. See page 535.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Isn't Montenegro "at a loss" over the war?

Aren't the Unionists getting very "snappish"?

What's the good of an Ulster with empty pockets?

Isn't the Budget query, "What will there be attacks on"?

Is there a "deal" more to come out in the Marconi affair?

Hasn't the U.S. President a lot of little odd "jobs" to settle?

Apropos of forcible feeding, isn't stuffing suitable for geese?

Wasn't Col. Seely's "aeroplane" statement somewhat "coloured"?

Will the injury to the Speaker's wrist necessitate his putting his foot down?

Wasn't the Bank Holiday "sitting" almost more than the House could "stand"?

* * *

Rapid Reviews:—

The Reef.—Glad we struck it.

The Bran Pie.—Something in it.

Two Kings.—Useful for a "nap."

The Heroine in Bronze.—Rather heavy.

The June Lady.—A very august personage.

The Knave of Diamonds.—The story is a trump.

* * *

Humble Petitions III.—The Man in the Street.

I.—That the Kaiser do name The Day.

II.—That Mr. David L. George be taxed out of existence.

III.—That Mr. Bernard Shaw be shaved.

IV.—That Mr. Reginald McKenna be forcibly fed with Suffragist literature.

V.—That the Clerk of the Weather be bound over to keep the peace.

VI.—That the cost of living be summoned for exceeding the speed limit.

VII.—That umbrella poaching be constituted an offence under the Game Laws.

VIII.—That cant be met with a hose-pipe.

IX.—That King Ferdinand of Bulgaria do mind the step (the bottom one being invariably the lowest).

X.—That the Board of Trade be dosed with Oxygen, Sanatogen, Beecham's Pills and Zotos.

XI.—That the War Office do touch wood.

XII.—That the Admiralty Arch do insist on itself.

XIII.—That the Labour Party do have a clean up: the same of the Liberal Party, the Conservative Party, and any other public nuisance.

XIV.—That the L.C.C. do have a high old time, money being no object.

XV.—That the wild women be "pinched."

* * *

"£1,000,000 Lock," says a heading. Worth pick.n :.

* * *

The cooks' strike, that began with a Cri, ended with a laugh.

* * *

Extract from a popular novel: "There was musi con the rack." It often is.

* * *

The young giraffe at the Zoo has to be fed with a bottle. What a neck!

* * *

The top hat is a hundred years old. Now the bowler will be after a century.

* * *

A cat recently cut off a City's lights. The poor thing must have been hungry.

* * *

A lady doctor claims that for a woman a new hat is a tonic. It is also her husband's medicine.

* * *

The new "slashed" skirt is not popular, we are told. The ladies evidently object to the cut.

* * *

We read of an actor playing the same *r le* two thousand times. How stale it must seem!

* * *

There has been a general decline in litigation since 1903. It's the defendants who are dodging it.

* * *

The Homœopathic Hospital has received a gift of £10,000. We suppose their principles were not violated by so large a draft?

* * *

Father Adderley says that sometimes people don't know what the preacher is talking about. And sometimes the preacher doesn't.

* * *

An interesting ceremony in connection with a Congress at Malta will be the blessing of the sea. We have often blessed it between Dover and Calais.

"Train in a River," reads a headline. Perhaps it was a boat train.

* * *

"Bedtime" won a race at Birmingham. We hope our readers all went "Nap" on it.

* * *

A New York expert says that families think alike. Our experience is that they always differ.

* * *

At the winding up of a rubber company the shareholders came to blows. They got wound up, too.

* * *

The Dutch Boy Scouts found London "a little too dirty." So they proceeded to "scour" it.

* * *

Why is the Polish nation the most polite in the world? Because it takes forty poles to make one rood.

* * *

The hunger-strike has been traced back to the fourth century. Some of the strikers look about as old as that.

* * *

At Samford (Suffolk), 92,297 rats were destroyed last year at twopence per head. Is anybody breeding them?

* * *

A centenarians' club in Tokyo has over fifty members. We have not yet heard of a rival institution for ladies.

* * *

Porridge is disappearing in Scotland, giving place to bread and jam. Soon the haggis will give way to rhubarb tart.

* * *

In a race at Newcastle, the three placed horses were Kaiser, Aloft, and Little Eye. But we are not superstitious.

* * *

The New Jersey man who has made his own coffin and lined it with asbestos evidently believes in fire insurance.

* * *

No palmists are to be allowed on the beach at Mablethorpe this year. Were they getting too much out of hand?

* * *

"The soil needs careful attention just now," says a gardening note. Yes, most gardens are beginning to look seedy.

* * *

A mason who posed as a curate is said to have preached a "fairly good sermon." That raised suspicion, of course.

* * *

The Hungarian artist who cut up three of his pictures at the Budapest Art Exhibition might have left that to the critics.

* * *

A correspondent in *The Times* denounces whisky advertisements as a disgrace. Some of them certainly show a poor spirit.

* * *

From the number of complaints about the taste of the Hampstead water we are inclined to think there may be something in it.

* * *

According to Bergson, laughter is "a froth with a saline base." Yes, you should take some people's frothy smiles with a grain of salt.

* * *

In connection with the cooks' and waiters' troubles, hotel managers think the "lightning strikes" are a thundering nuisance.

* * *

Sir George Kenrick says that some of the best teachers of gymnastics are ladies. Now we guess where the Suffragettes learn their tricks.

* * *

The Bill to apply Greenwich time to Ireland will not be popular; the natives prefer to take their own time—especially to pay rent.

* * *

There was a rumour that among the victims of the Ohio floods was M. Eugene Ysaye, the famous violinist. But it was all fiddle-de-dee.

* * *

Mr. Holbrook Jackson thinks history will look on the suffragettes as we look on Joan of Arc. But Joan was burned; the suffragettes burn.

* * *

It was stated in a recent breach of promise action that the young man broke off the engagement by telephone. The proper way to get the ring off.

* * *

One hundred pigs, including prize-winners, belonging to Lord Ellesmere, have had to be destroyed through swine fever. His lordship is feeling less pawky now.

* * *

Harry (*outside Picture-Palace*): "What's on, Liza?"

Liza: "Oh, something about 'The Miserables.'"

Harry: "Let's go higher up, then. I've got them myself."

Look out for Our Great Summer Competition. Particulars shortly.

FOR 2 WEEKS ONLY—FOOTBALL 'Wind-up' CONTEST.

FOR NEAREST CORRECT FORECASTS £250

£1,000 Cash Prize

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR LADIES £50

AS the 1912-13 Football Season closes with the present month, we announce this week a "Wind-up" Football Competition. We invite readers to take advantage of this final opportunity of exercising their football skill and of turning their knowledge of the great winter game into profit by winning one of the huge cash prizes offered. Please note—this competition will last **two weeks only**—so don't delay your entries. Fill in this week's coupon at once.

What you have to do is to forecast the results of the matches given on the entrance form on the inside of our front cover, selected from the last of this season's League fixtures, **to be played on April 26th.** Draw your pen through the team you think will lose; if you predict a draw do not cross out either team.

The £1,000 in cash will be paid to the competitor sending us an Entrance form containing correct forecasts of the matches played to a finish, **even if the number be only 10 or 12.** As in our previous football competitions,

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

With the knowledge of form acquired by our readers, we quite expect that the £1,000 will be won; and so we have deposited that sum specially with our Bankers, whose receipt we reproduce on this page.

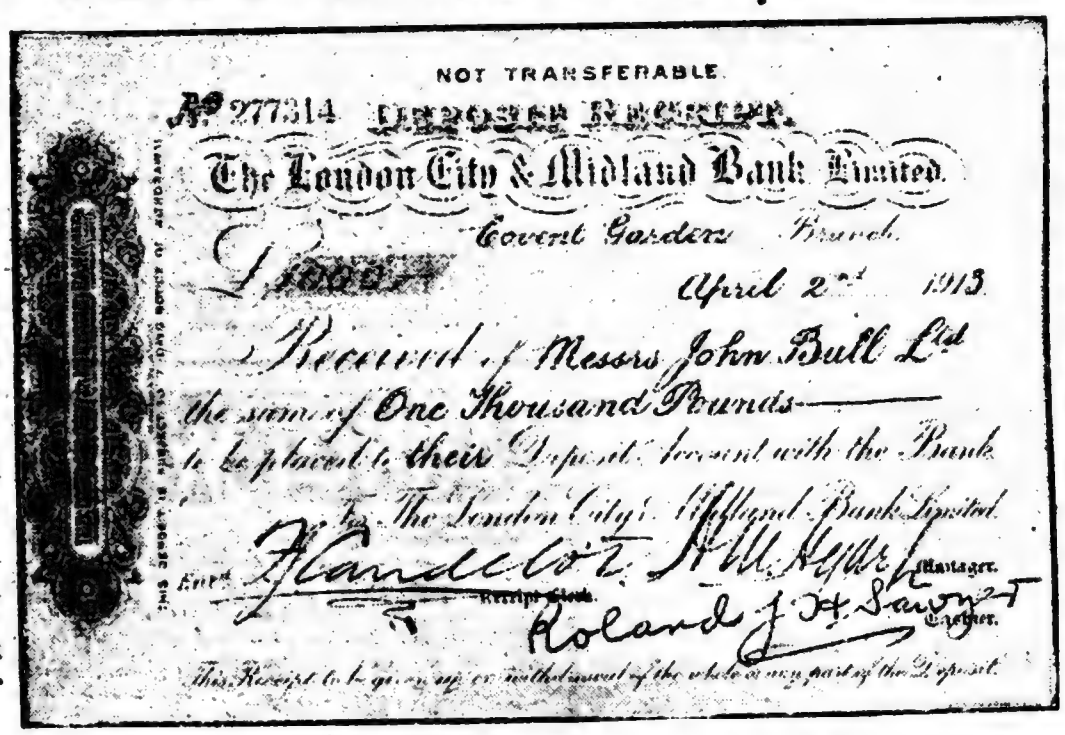
Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results, the sum of

£250 IN CASH

will, in any event, be paid to the competitor sending the most correct forecasts short of the full number.

The RULES and COUPON will be found ON THE INSIDE of FRONT COVER.

WAITING AT THE BANK FOR YOU.


NOT TRANSFERABLE.

No. 277314 DEPOSIT RECEIPT.

The London City & Midland Bank Limited.

Covent Garden Branch.

£1000

April 2nd 1913.

Received of Messrs John Bull Ltd

the sum of One Thousand Pounds

to be placed to their Deposit Account with the Bank

for The London City & Midland Bank Limited

Manager.

Cashier.

This Receipt to be given up on withdrawal of the whole or any part of the Deposit.

£50 FOR LADIES.

Ladies are again cordially invited to enter. They have the same chance as male competitors of winning the £1,000 or the £250, but in the event of a lady not winning or sharing either of these prizes we shall pay the special prize of £50 to the lady sending more correct forecasts than any other lady competitor.

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends can send their entries in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecast. The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of reading the football columns of the daily papers.

THE COMPETITION LASTS 2 WEEKS ONLY, so don't fail to make use of the coupon in this issue. You will find it on page 2 of our coloured cover.

NO GOALS.

NO FEES.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR GREAT SUMMER COMPETITION. NOT A FOOTBALL CONTEST—BUT LIKE IT. PARTICULARS SHORTLY.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 542, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £450 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of over £1,770.

John Bull League Notes.

(By the General Secretary.)

Newcastle-on-Tyne.—An enthusiastic audience assembled in the Town Hall on Friday last, and the wonderful reception accorded to the President will not soon be forgotten. To say that the hall was packed to suffocation is no exaggeration, and hundreds were turned away. Mr. A. B. Thompson, of Whitley Bay, delighted the waiting audience with an organ recital, and Mr. D. Spark gave a fine rendering of the League Songs. The President held his audience for an hour and a half with a masterly criticism of the Party system and exposition of the aims and objects of a Business Government. The local branch benefited considerably by the sale of reserved seats.

Cardiff.—For several weeks past there has been a constant demand for tickets for the President's meeting to be held at the Park Hall on Friday, and there are only a few left. The following gentlemen have reserved seats for sale: Messrs. E. Lloyd, 35, Merthyr Street, Cathays; W. E. Escott, 11, Clyde Street; J. Rowles, 2 and 3, Quay Street; E. W. Creedon, 5, Edward Terrace; E. W. Garnon, 34, Cowbridge Road; W. Lawrence, 5, St. Barrwg Terrace, Bedwas; R. H. Helps, 4, Forest Road, Treforest; A. W. Eardley, "Tremayne," Cowbridge Road, Bridgend; R. W. Webb, 3, Ceridwen Terrace, Pontypridd; and myself at the Park Hotel, Cardiff. I shall be glad to hear from any member who will assist either at the meeting or in connection with the formation of the South Wales Federation.

Hull.—The demand for seats for the meeting on the 18th inst., at the City Hall, has been so great that there are but a few ordinary tickets left; there are, however, a limited number of reserved tickets at one shilling, which may be obtained from the following: Messrs. G. West, 9, Belts Place, Blackfriargate; R. C. Bellamy, 5, Cogan Chambers, Bowlalley Lane; G. C. Duffill, 701, Spring Bank West; H. Cowling, 9, Pulman Street; E. Machon, 92, Victoria Avenue; B. Smith, 4, Harold Avenue; R. Chapman, 88, Freehold Street; H. L. Harvey, 75, Walton Street; M. J. Davis, 70, Freehold Street; W. R. C. Butler, 16, Chaucer Street; J. F. Werge, 4, Norfolk Street; F. Ward, 8, Togo Crescent, Eastbourne Street; F. W. Morrissey (the Local Chairman), 28, Louis Street; and myself at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C. I arrive at the Imperial Hotel on the 13th inst., and should like to get in touch with those of our members and supporters who will assist as stewards at the meeting.

Glasgow.—The branch held their Annual Meeting at the Blythswood Hotel, Argyle Street, on the 31st ult. A strong and enthusiastic executive has been formed, with Mr. David Tait, a prominent member of the Constitutional Club, as Chairman, and Mr. H. McCone, as Secretary. A grand smoking concert will be held in the Lansdown Restaurant, Hope Street, on Thursday, April 17th, at 8 p.m. Tickets, sixpence each, including refreshments, can be obtained from Messrs. D. Tait, 13, Grafton Square; H. H. Ognall, 2, Wardlaw Drive, Rutherglen; C. H. Chell, 6, Radnor Street, Sandyford; W. Smart, 222, Paisley Road; A. Tait, 23, Palermo Street, Springburn; D. McLean, 8, South Chester Street, Shettleston; and H. McCone, the Local Secretary, 1,222, Springburn Road.

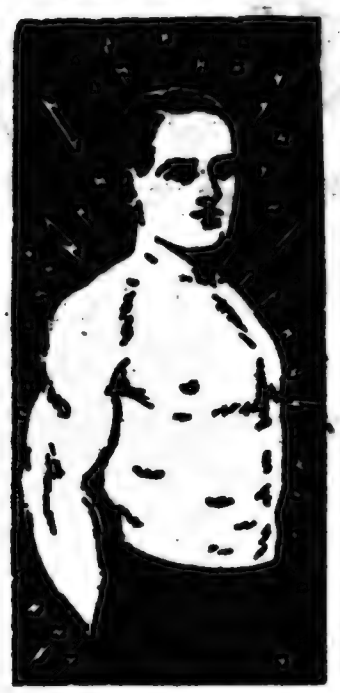
Birmingham.—Members are particularly requested to be present at the meeting to-night (Thursday), at the Gower Street Schools, Lozlls. The Chairman of the branch will take the chair at 8 p.m., when interesting addresses will be given and the campaign embarked upon by the local executive will be outlined.

Manchester.—The annual meeting of this branch was held on Thursday last, the 3rd inst., at the Coal Exchange, Market Street, Mr. Councillor Ross-Clyne presiding. He dealt fully with the work of the League in both national and municipal affairs. A strong Committee has been formed and the branch has in hand an enterprising campaign.

Plymouth.—The following slides are being thrown upon the screens of all the local places of entertainment: "Are you in favour of a broad-minded, non-Party Business policy in Municipal and National Government? If so, join the John Bull League and help to support their efforts to obtain clean and hea thy enjoyment on the people's Sunday. Sign your name on the petition for the opening of picture palaces on Sundays." Mr. H. E. Cross, of 27, Alexandra Road, Nutley, is the Local Treasurer.

THE VITAL POWER

OF THE HUMAN BODY. IT CAN BE REGAINED.



The force that runs the human machine is stored in the nerves. This nervous energy, as it is called, is only another name for electricity.

If any organ of your body is weak and inactive, it means that the nerves which control it lack power. This must be restored before the affected part can perform its proper functions. It does no good to take drugs for such a condition as this. You can only effect a cure by replacing the energy that has been lost. Drugs are poisons—electricity is life.

Saturate your nerves with a glowing current from the "Ajax" Body Battery for an hour each day. The weak organs will respond to its influence in the same way that an electric motor starts whirling as soon as the power is turned on.

The "Ajax" is a self-charged Body Battery which generates a steady, unbroken stream of galvanic electricity and infuses it into the nerves in just the right volume. It builds up vitality and strength, and cures all ailments resulting from a debilitated state of nerves and vital organs.

Men who suffer from failing vitality, debility, or any of the usual weaknesses, will find that the "Ajax" Body Battery, together with electric suspensory attachment, will quickly put them in good condition. It is a natural remedy, and those who have used it will tell you that it does all we claim for it.

THIS IS FREE.

We'll send you our Free Book, closely sealed, which tells all about the Battery, how it cures, and what it does. This book is illustrated, and explains many things you should know about the cause and cure of disease. If you want to be the man Nature intended you to be, send for the book at once. We have a book for women also.

THE BRITISH ELECTRIC INSTITUTE,

(Dept. 41), 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

OUR ADVICE.

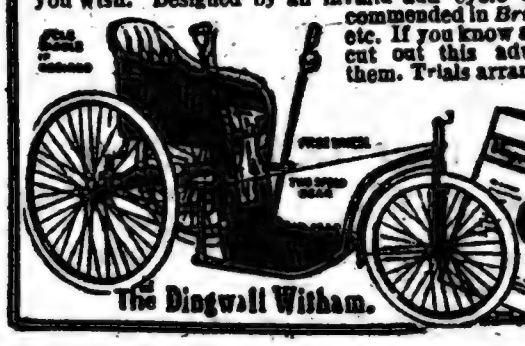
We hear a lot nowadays about the scarcity of men who are capable of earning as much as £5 a week and the struggle for existence of the thousands of men who are not able to demand more than 30s. a week to keep their wives and families.

Although in a few cases "bad luck" may be the reason, there is no disguising the fact that every man has his future in his own hands, more or less, and it is the man who realises this fact that is constantly on the look-out for opportunities for safeguarding himself against unemployment and for improving his present wage by making himself worth more money to either his present employer or a fresh one. No matter what his present occupation is, he is the kind of man who says to himself, "I will lose no time in fitting myself to enter the Motor Industry, which is now in its infancy, and which offers by far the best chances to smart men, and I will call or write at once to the Motor Industry's training centre:—The British School of Motoring, Coventry House, 5 and 6, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W. (opposite the Prince of Wales Theatre, near Leicester Square), for their Free Illustrated Prospectus (J) on how to obtain instruction in Practical Motoring and how to get a berth in the Motor Industry."

This is the kind of man who succeeds—he does not rely upon his present job or trade; he sees that he has two strings to his bow. He is the smart man—are you one also?

IF YOU **CANNOT WALK** Send for my FREE BOOK.

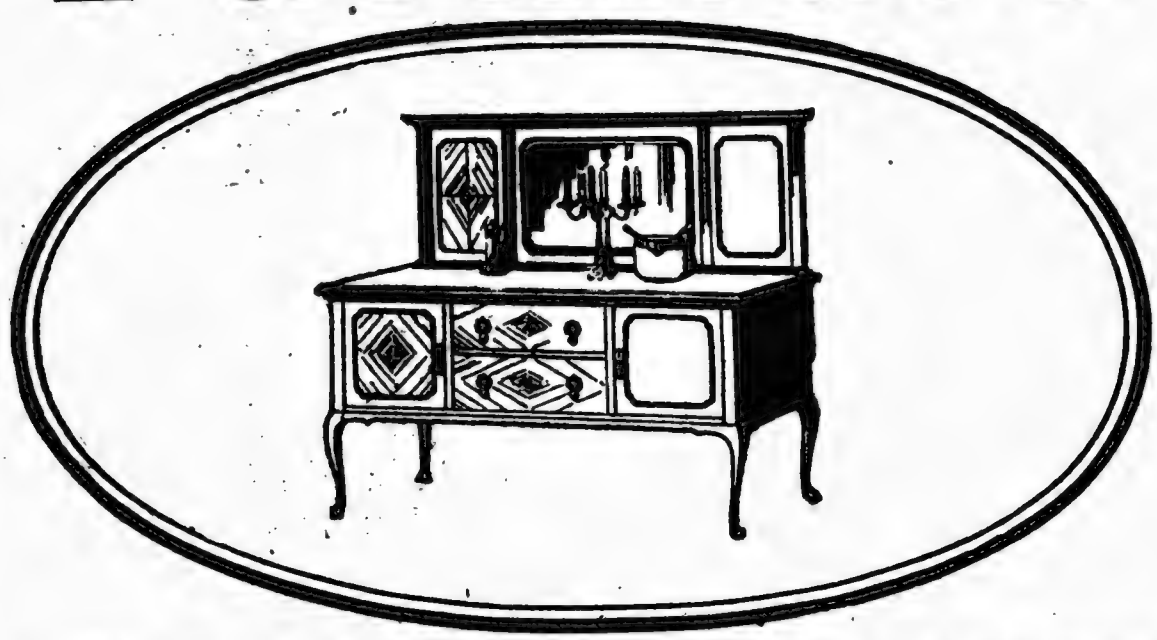
FREE to all an illustrated Book telling about the famous Dingwall-Witham Hand-Propelled Tricycles or Bath Chairs—something different from others—Two Speeds (powerful hill climbers) and Free Wheel, Saddles, Coach-Built seats, etc., as preferred. In one of these machines you are rendered quite independent of other people—can get out in the fresh air unaided—go to and from your business if you wish. Designed by an invalid and cycle engineer. Highly recommended in *British Medical Journal*, etc. If you know anyone unable to walk, cut out this advertisement and show them. Trials arranged at London Works. Send for the Booklet to-day. Also indoor self-propelling chairs from £3.



The Dingwall Witham.

FREE J.P. WITHAM
30, Pyle House, Newport, Wight

Furniture



THE Queen Anne style Sideboard shown above is a typical example of the splendid value we offer. It is very soundly constructed of oak, with beautifully-quartered panels, and is fitted with a shaped bevelled mirror. The drawers and cupboards have antique pattern drop handles. The quiet, tasteful lines of this design, with its simple cabriole legs and plain mouldings, give it a most dignified appearance. Size 5 ft. wide, 5 ft. 9 in. high, 20 in. deep. Price **£8 18s. 6d.**

The enormous business we do and the huge stock we hold enables us to offer better value than any other furnishing house. Taking into consideration the quality of our goods, our prices represent a standard of value which has been unequalled in the whole furnishing trade.

Country Fares Paid.

In order that country customers may make a personal selection, we pay their fares to town on all orders of £20 and upwards. Country orders packed and delivered free.

Second-hand Department.

Our Second-hand Department alone contains a stock valued at considerably over £10,000. A special Catalogue is issued weekly, which we shall be pleased to forward post free on application.

You can furnish without capital by availing yourself of our Ideal Payment System. No deposit is asked, no interest required, and no extra charges made.

TERMS: Worth.		Per Month.
£10	..	£0 6 0
£20	..	0 11 0
£30	..	0 17 0
£40	..	1 5 0
£50	..	1 8 0
£100	..	2 5 0
£200	..	4 10 0

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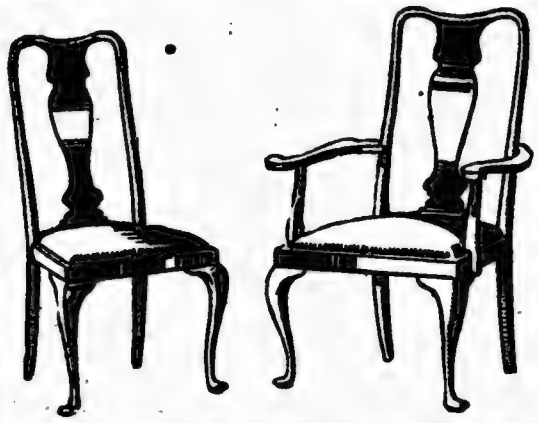

The "Merton" Suite.

An inexpensive dining-room suite in Queen Anne style, consisting of two armchairs and four small chairs, well made of oak, with seats covered in any colour Rexine. This suite can also be had stained mahogany colour.

Price £7 17s. 6d.

A Complete Furnishing Guide.

We have prepared a very elaborate complete Guide to the furnishing of the House containing hundreds of illustrations and several coloured plates. A copy will be sent you post free on request.

Midland

Furnishing Company, Ltd.,

London's Leading Furnishers,

15 to 23, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C.

Hours—9 till 8. Sats.—9 till 1.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 540.*]

The Stock Markets.

The little State of Montenegro is keeping the whole of the great European Powers at bay, determined to conquer Scutari. Were it not for this difficulty, peace would probably be concluded in a few days, especially as the fact that the Powers are sending their ships to the Adriatic, shows that they are acting in unison. The monetary outlook, moreover, is most satisfactory. Seven millions sterling in dividends were released on Saturday by the Bank of England and the Government, and there is every prospect of a reduction in the bank rate. A somewhat disturbing influence has, however, been the very unfavourable reception in this market of the big Union of South Africa Loan, of which the underwriters had to take 94 per cent. There are, of course, reasons why this Loan has been practically boycotted, such as the opposition by political to financial interests in South Africa, and also the fact that the Loan would be hit in South Africa and in England by double death duties. In addition to which the public do not take kindly to 4 per cent. loans. The Yankee market has resisted the effect of the death of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan very well, every arrangement having evidently been made to prevent a panic. There is finally a slight reaction, on an unsatisfactory New York Bank statement, while the market is awaiting the President's message concerning tariff reductions, which is imminent. Canadian Pacifics have had a sharp rise, although they are now below the best. Copper has advanced sharply, taking Rio Tintos with it, and while a temporary reaction would not be surprising, a fresh rise will no doubt in due time be engineered. In the meantime the Rio Tintos strike should soon be settled. Kaffirs and Rhodesians have been very quiet, but the undertone seems firm, and these markets, as well as that for Diamond shares, are merely awaiting a settlement of the Balkan question. This is no doubt also the case with Nigerian Tin shares. Rubber and Rubber shares are distinctly lower, and the price of the commodity has fallen materially, so much so that lower yields must be established as a basis of prices, but some of the young producers, which have commended distributing profits, still look well. Oil shares are not quite so firm, also owing to the Near Eastern trouble, but the fact that a few new companies are quietly being floated, seems to indicate that the market looks for an early recovery. The Shell Transport Company has apparently obtained control for itself and allied interests, of the Trinidad Oilfields, which is significant.

Industrial Assurance Debit System.

A correspondent, who has had a large and practical experience of the working of industrial assurance business, desires us to warn inexperienced men against buying books. Many a man (he says) has invested his hard-earned savings in purchasing "debit," only to find that he has made a "bad bargain." A victim, who wrote us recently, stated that he had paid the high figure of "thirty times over for every £1 of debit," with disastrous results to himself. It is said that the offices who permit the selling of books decline all responsibility in connection with the matter, so that a man new to the business pays up his money only to find that he has purchased a certain amount of "dead debit," and to that extent is an immediate loser. Another correspondent relates that he has been instrumental during 7½ years in nearly doubling his "debit," and that, in order to secure the distribution of some portion of it for other men on certain terms offered by the superintendent, and such terms having been refused, the life of the agent who declines to part with any portion of the fruits of his industry is made unbearable. If our correspondent's statements can be proved, we regard the action of the superintendent as most unjustifiable. We feel that this subject should be thoroughly ventilated, and we invite agents working in the industrial field to let us know their experiences on the point raised.

A Financial Lord Chamberlain.

"You have a censor of plays; why not a censor of prospectuses?" asked a Mr. Reginald Enock, at the Putmayo Inquiry last week. We fear, however, that a financial Lord Chamberlain would not be able to do justice to the task imposed on him; he would be appointed by the Party System, irrespective of his fitness for the post and, as has been pointed out, his *imprimatur* would be taken as placing the State's hall-mark on new companies. On the whole, it is best that John Bull should remain the censor.

What is a Bucket Shop?

Ths question has been agitating the Courts again. We heard the other day this definition:—"A bucket-shop is a modern cooperage establishment to which a man takes a barrel and brings back the bunghole."

A Wonderful Business.

A few months ago a representative of this journal investigated the business of Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., of 10, Place de la Bourse, Paris, the well-known firm dealing in foreign Premium Bonds, and was greatly impressed with the thoroughness of the organisation. Every detail of the business was submitted to him, and in view of what he reported to us as to its extent, we are not surprised to learn that the firm are removing to larger premises, 10, rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris.

"Potter"-ing in the Arctic.

Given a W. J. Potter, of whom no one has ever heard, an unnamed late second officer of the *Arctic* (which is stated to be the Canadian Government scientific exploration ship), an unregistered syndicate, and an objective not disclosed, these materials do not, at first sight, appear promising for raking in the shekels from even the most gullible of gulls; but the aforesaid Mr. Potter, who writes from a spot which he calls "The Council Offices, 26, Shaftesbury Avenue, London, W.," considers that they are sufficient for the purpose of securing twenty subscribers at £1,000 a time to his scheme to fit out a vessel, place it in charge of the aforementioned late second officer, and send it off to "a certain district in Northern Canada," there to dig up anthracite, iron ore, copper, antimony, tin, precious metals, trade in "white fox skins, blue fox skins (which sell at £1,000 each), polar bear skins, walrus and seal skins, ivory, walrus tusks, whalebone, deer skins and musk ox," and fish for salmon which "abound by millions in every creek and harbour of the coast." The "strictly private" circular which Mr. Potter is sending out is a gem. It urges the recipient to put any question by letter or wire, but adds, "please do not delay a single day in putting it in," and goes on to request a reply by wire and to be confirmed by letter. And it concludes, "we need only £20,000 in all." Wonderful!

The Systematic Blind Pool.

One of our readers sends us a circular and some letters from the "Systematic Investment Company," of 112, Leadenhall Street, London (W. E. Delaney, manager), which go to prove that the adjective in its title has been well chosen, for the trick—which it has played for a long time—consists in getting people to send in money for "a new special deal" in the shares of some un-named company in Rhodesia, and, when that has been done, to get them to sign a blank transfer accepting in return for their remittance something the nature of which they will not know until Delaney chooses to enlighten them. Our correspondent, who has apparently parted with £10, asks what he should do. We advise him to go into the street and kick himself round the square for being such a fool.

Does Anybody Know Them?

A Mr. W. E. Edwards, C.E., of Rylstone, Romford, has written to one of our readers asking him to communicate with Messrs. Swepstone's solicitors, 9, St. Helen's Place, E.C., "asking to be allowed to subscribe for £100 or £200" in the Radnor Coal Syndicate, Ltd. Mr. Edwards is quite unknown to the person whom he addressed. Three weeks after Edwards sent his letter, a Mr. J. E. Browne, of 9, St. Helen's Place (the address of Swepstone's), wrote—on the commonest of notepaper and in a caligraphy which would be no credit to an office-boy—to our reader, referring to "our mutual friend, Mr. Edwards," and seconding the recommendation of the shares. Mr. Browne states in his letter that the "directors and other people connected with the syndicate are all of high standing." This may be so, but we have never heard of them. Their names are given as W. S. Stevens, 212, Westminster Bridge Road, S.W.; J. M. Brace, 54, Cranley Gardens, S.W.; Captain Radclyffe, Hyde, Wareham, and Aron Griffiths, Commercial Hotel, Presteigne. How the three first-named directors are to make themselves useful by directing the operations of the syndicate in Radnorshire is not explained. Besides, the information given in the particulars sent out does not disclose what is being paid for the options on the property, or the denomination of the shares which go to make up the Syndicate's capital of £10,000. But the most important thing is to know what experience and records the directors have. Perhaps some of our readers can supply the answer.

£1,000 for Football Forecasts. No Goals. See page 535.

A GREAT IMPERIAL ENTERPRISE

OIL WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

A £1 Share That May be Worth £200.

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.

As recently announced in this page, no more shares in this important undertaking can now be obtained, at par, in view of the fact that one of South Africa's leading geologists, Mr. J. E. MILLS-DAVIES, A.I.M.M., who has just returned from a visit to the properties in the Ceres district, Cape Province, controlled by the Company, has taken the responsible step of locating the first borehole, with the result that machinery will now be slipped and drilling operations commenced.

* * * * * *

It may be recalled that the capital of the Company is £250,000, including £50,000 working capital, in shares of £1 each.

* * * * * *

The properties, in the Ceres district, controlled by the Company are about 150 square miles in extent, and are in one block.

* * * * * *

The ground has been visited and reported upon by many eminent Oil Experts, who have certified to its petroliferous character.

* * * * * *

Extracts from these Reports, published in this page from time to time, show that the Experts are all of the definite opinion that Petroleum, in payable quantities, abounds on the Company's properties.

* * * * * *

The Company has the exclusive right, for a period of ten years, to work OIL AND ALL OTHER MINERALS over this extensive territory, and the right, at any time during that period, to purchase the freeholds of the properties.

* * * * * *

The importance of this new industry to the Empire cannot be overrated, Ceres being within 100 miles of Capetown and Simonstown, South Africa's naval base.

* * * * * *

The annual value of the imports of Mineral Oil into South Africa exceeds £500,000.

* * * * * *

The Company is a parent undertaking, its policy being to dispose of Oil rights, over given areas, to subsidiary Companies, retaining a substantial interest in them, and reserving to Shareholders in the Company a preferential right to allotment of shares in such subsidiary Companies.

* * * * * *

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority its £1 shares may at any moment attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

* * * * * *

Investors and others interested in this important enterprise, which in the opinion of "John Bull" is destined to mark the dawn of a new era in the Oil production of the World, and the shares of which are described by the Editor of that Journal as constituting "by far the most attractive purchase in the Oil Market to-day," should apply for particulars.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SYNDICATE, LTD.,
80, Coleman Street, London. E.C.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.

CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA.—A. W. (Hascombe).—You cannot be a regular reader of JOHN BULL, or you would have seen that we have consistently expressed a favourable opinion of the prospects of this undertaking. You can obtain full particulars from the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, of 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C., who are the sponsors of the scheme. ——E. K. (Rathmines).—If you communicate with the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Ltd., 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C., we feel sure they will do their best to expedite the matter. You would be very ill-advised to sell.——R. N. P. (Blackheath).—You ask whether the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate is "quite safe to take a few shares in." This Syndicate, which is responsible for the very important scheme for the exploitation of oil in South Africa, to which we have so frequently referred, is not offering any shares of its own to the public. We have no reason to modify our oft expressed opinion that the shares of the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa are the best speculative purchase we know of, but, in the circumstances you mention, we should advise you to place the "few pounds you have left," and which you do not desire to "risk," in the Post Office Savings Bank. Although you ask our advice, you do not comply with our rules, which provide that every Financial Enquiry shall be accompanied by a postal order for one shilling.

INVESTMENT REGISTRY, LTD.—T. J. W. (Llandovery).—We do not remember ever having described this concern as a "bucket shop"—although there are many features of its business which do not commend themselves to us.

PREMIUM BONDS.—BULLFINCH.—We should not recommend transactions with the firm you mention, but you would be able to deal on better terms with Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., who are the largest dealers in these securities, and whose new address is 10, rue du 4 Septembre, La Bourse, Paris.

FOURTEEN INVESTMENTS.—EUGENIUS.—None of your investments come within the gilt-edged category, but most of them are safe enough. We place them in the following order of merit:—4, 1, 8, 7, 11, 13, 5, 6, 3, 2, 12, 9, 10 and 14. As regards further investments, we do not care for ground rents, as there is always a possibility of fresh taxation. The following is a suitable selection of securities:—Great Central Railway 1881 Preference at 102, Brighton Railway Preferred Ordinary at 120, City of Edmonton 4½ per cent. Bonds at 99, Japanese Sterling 4 per cent. Bonds at 82½, and Vickers 5 per cent. Preference £1 shares at 1 3-16.

CHATHAMS.—PIG.—We are averse to dealings with firms of this kind. However, you should run the Chatham deal to the end of the option.

OUTSIDE CONCERN.—E. T. (Tamworth).—We doubt whether you will ever get any money back.

CANADIAN LANDS.—MISS M. A. L. (Chester).—We do not like these obscure land companies, and have been warning our readers against them for some time past. Nothing is known here of the concern, and you had better make your enquiries in Manchester.——MARCH.—The land *may* be all right, but we do not recommend purchases through the firm in question, unless you can obtain unimpeachable references as to their standing. Such business had far best be done through one of the recognised British companies. All the same, we do not care for this kind of investment.

INVESTMENT.—ANXIOUS (Exeter).—We are glad to see you are one of those sensible people who make their inquiries before investing. We strongly advise you not to entrust any money to the people in question. The Oil shares in question are promising, but, obviously, you can only look upon them as a speculation.

GREAT COBAR.—COPPER.—The fall is due partly to disappointment with latest developments in the mine, and partly to the necessities of some of the French holders. It might be worth while now to hold for a recovery, but you should take an early opportunity to clear out.

HOME RAILS.—FASS.—Both Midland Preferred and Great Northern Deferred would be suitable for your purpose. We are not in a position to recommend stockbrokers in the Provinces, but we shall be pleased to send you the address of a London firm.

INVENTIONS.—RAINBOW.—It is a pity you put your money into this concern without making your inquiries first. We are afraid we have nothing comforting to say to you in connection with it, as no information is available here, and it cannot certainly be called a "safe investment."

MISCELLANEOUS.—G. A. G. (Fearn).—If you feel so uncomfortable, there is no reason why you should not sell out. Always remember that the higher the return the greater the risk.

SYSTEMATIC INVESTMENT CO.—S. L. (Penzance).—Have nothing to do with these people. See "City Notes" this week.

CITY OF PRINCE ALBERT (SASKATCHEWAN) DEBENTURES.—H. W. (Kensington).—We do not advise you to subscribe to this issue notwithstanding the tempting yield and the fact that some of these Canadian "Cities" have developed at a remarkable rate. Have you realised that this "city" is not as large as Guildford?

FARROW'S BANK.—ENQUIRER (New Cross).—A perfectly safe institution.

MIDLAND AND TEXTILE INSURANCE CO.—ACQUA-PURA.—You will be quite safe in placing your third-party driving risk with this Company.

NATIONAL GENERAL INSURANCE CO.—A. S. W. (Wanstead Park).—We fear you have no option but to meet the call of 5s. per share which has now been made. The losses sustained by the Company have been very heavy on certain sections of its foreign business, which, we understand, have now been discontinued. What these losses have meant in the way of depleting the resources of the Company will doubtless be revealed when the accounts are published this month. Meanwhile, it is impossible to give definite information regarding the precise financial position of the Company or to advise respecting the intrinsic merits of the shares you hold.

ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE.—S. S. (Tidal Basin).—In this case the father insured the life of his son for £8 18s. immediate half-benefit. The policy was applied for in April, 1911, and the son died in January, 1912. From the information supplied, we are unable to express a definite opinion. Let us know up to what date the premiums were paid, and if any arrears existed. The letter from the Superintendent does not help us to elucidate the position, the only statement given being to the effect that the Chief office regret their inability to make any payment in respect of the son's death.

COLONIAL MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.—ANXIETY.—We should not attach much importance to the questions which have been asked. The Society's affairs are undergoing investigation by the Victorian Government, and it is confidently anticipated that its financial soundness will be confirmed. Although we are not particularly enamoured of this institution, we are opposed to "hitting below the belt" when the correct attitude is to "wait and see." Meanwhile, we do not find any sufficient reason for alarm.

NATIONAL BENEFIT LIFE AND PROPERTY ASSURANCE CO.—FELIX.—Your friend should not surrender the Endowment policy. Although it is a comparatively young Company, having been established so recently as 1890, it is under careful and experienced management. The invested funds exceed £550,000, and the last Actuarial Valuation of assets and liabilities showed the Company to be in a perfectly sound condition.

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE CO.—LAND'S END (Cornwall).—We note your complaint after paying for 26 years the Company now decline to continue the assurance on the ground of "excessive weight." We fear you have no legal redress, but, having directed attention to your statement, the directors of the Company may feel disposed to reconsider their decision, and we shall hope to hear that they have done so.

REFUGE ASSURANCE CO.—R. H. O. (Cardiff).—The two policies were effected prior to the passing of the Act of 1909, and therefore absence of "insurable interest" does not necessarily invalidate the assurances. It has been held that a wife must not apply her husband's money towards the purchase of things against his will, and this ruling would, of course, apply to the payment of premiums contrary to his wishes. We hesitate to advise you to commence legal proceedings, in view of the secretary's statement that "the policies have always been regarded by us as good policies, and we have always been, and still are, prepared to pay the sums assured when the claims arise." The leading Industrial Companies undoubtedly pay death claims promptly. Our complaint is not on that score, but against the one-sided and inequitable character of the policies. W. H. (Palmer's Green).—We are of opinion that your wife was prevailed upon to take up the policy by representations which were not true, and that she could recover the premiums paid. Was the policy issued in the name of your wife's friend direct, or is the policy on the "life of another," your wife being mentioned as the proposer and entitled to any benefits received under the policy? This is an important point.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE CO.—SUSPICIOUS (Liverpool).—Any specific case you care to place before us shall have our best attention.——OLD READER.—You state you are a widow left with two children and you inform us that the life of your late husband was assured for many years, and that prior to Christmas last a second policy was issued. You say your husband died on January 19th, and the Company now refuse to admit the claim on the second policy owing to reports that he had "periods of ill-health beforehand." These you state were attributed to colds, but when he passed the doctor he was in good health. If the "colds" were of a chronic character and were not disclosed to the Company at the time the second policy was effected, the Company may possibly have good reason for not admitting the claim. Write to the joint Managing Directors, at the Head Offices, London Bridge, and ask what they are prepared to do for you.——AVOCA.—The policy you enclose is on the "life of another," and is in order. We note your statement that the premiums paid up-to-date amount to £22 12s., against the sum assured, £15 12s. You say you do not know the exact "surrender value," but believe it to be 40 per cent. of the premiums paid. We find no obligation in the policy conditions to pay you a Surrender Value at all, or even to issue a Free Paid-up policy, as in the case of the Ordinary Branch. The omission of these necessary provisions, which cause the loss of the savings of the poor in the event of the premium payments being discontinued, is a great blot on Industrial assurance.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—G. M. (Shepherd's Bush).—Your first policy is for an Endowment of £28 10s., payable at the expiration of thirty years from the commencement, and a payment of £14 5s. at death, either before or after that date. It is not a good investment, as you will see if you calculate the amount paid in. You have already paid £31 odd, and, in the event of death, would have only £14 5s. to draw. You have still to pay 6d. per week for six years and six months, during which time you will pay another £8 9s., making a total of £39 for an assurance of £14 5s. We should advise you to cease payment and ask for a Free policy. You could obtain one for £24, which amount would be payable at death or on June 3rd, 1919. The second policy is for £20 8s., payable at death, and has no connection with the original policy

(A number of replies are held over.)

A Reader Wins £400. Why shouldn't You. Try "Bullets" on page 542.

How to Completely Overcome

TOBACCO HABIT

ATTAINED AT LAST—

A SUCCESSFUL REMEDY.

VICTORY IN 3 DAYS

Read These Testimonials. *They are but a few from Legions.*

NO LONGER WANTS A PIPE.

Mr. H. Denford, Merton, Devon, writes: "I took your 3 days' C Treatment, and am very pleased to testify that it completely took away the craving for tobacco, and I am also glad to say that I am feeling in much better health than I have for many a day. I have never once had a crave for the pipe since the first day I started taking your treatment."

CHEWED AND SMOKED FOR 25 YEARS.

Mr. Wm. Courtney, Mostyn, writes: "I had been a heavy smoker and chewer for 25 years. I am proud to say that since taking your C treatment the craving has entirely gone. I am a cured man with a clear brain and elastic step."

USED TOBACCO FOR 20 YEARS.

Mr. J. C. Guest, King's Norton, writes: "I write to tell you that your remedy for the Tobacco Habit has cured me entirely, and I have no desire to smoke at all now. It seems a marvel to give up the habit so easily after being addicted for a good 20 years."

NO LONGER WANTS CIGARETTES.

Mr. H. Thistlethwaite, Burnley, Lancs, writes: "Please accept my sincere thanks for your C Treatment. It has cured me of the Tobacco Habit, and I have no further desire for cigarettes. You can make what use you like of this letter, and you can refer anyone you like to me."

SMOKED 100 CIGARETTES WEEKLY.

Mr. G. Stubbs, Horsforth, writes: "I feel that I must write and let you know the result of your C Treatment, which has been a success. I used to smoke 100 cigarettes per week, and the craving for them was very great; but before I had finished your three days' treatment I had lost all desire to smoke and I must say that I feel much better now that I no longer smoke."

HEAVY SMOKER OF CIGARETTES.

Mr. J. Sincock, Redruth, writes: "Your C Treatment is all that you claim it to be. I was a heavy smoker of cigarettes, but I now have no more desire to smoke, and I thank you very much for what your C Treatment has done for me."

LOST ALL DESIRE FOR TOBACCO.

Mrs. R. Roberts, Cinderford, writes: "I am writing to say my husband has entirely lost all desire for tobacco since taking your C Set of Remedies. He has not touched tobacco in any form since he started taking them, and although he had a box of cigars sent to him, he has no desire whatever to smoke them."

GLAD TO SAVE MONEY.

Mr. James Ritchie, Aberdeen, N.B., writes: "Your C Treatment has proved excellent. I have no desire for tobacco now. I am very glad to be rid of the habit, because I can very well do with the money which I used to waste on tobacco."

ALL DESIRE OR CRAVING IS REMOVED FOR Pipe, Cigars, Chewing Tobacco, Cigarettes, Snuff.

I offer a genuine guaranteed remedy for tobacco or snuff habit in 72 hours. It is mild, pleasant, strengthening. Overcomes that peculiar **nervousness** and craving for **cigarettes, cigars, pipe, chewing tobacco,** or **snuff.** Tobacco is **poisonous** and seriously **injures the health** in several ways, causing such disorders as nervous dyspepsia, **sleeplessness,** gas, belching, **gnawing,** or other uncomfortable sensation in stomach, **constipation, headache, weak eyes, loss of vigour, red spots on skin, throat irritation, catarrh, asthma, bronchitis, heart failure, lung trouble, melancholy,** neurasthenia, loss of memory and will power, impure (poisoned) blood, rheumatism, lumbago, sciatica, neuritis, **heartburn, torpid liver, loss of appetite,** bad teeth, **foul breath,** lassitude, **lack of ambition,** weakening and falling out of hair, and many other disorders. **It is unsafe and torturing** to attempt to cure yourself of tobacco and snuff habit by suddenly stopping—don't do it. The correct method is to **eliminate the nicotine poison** from the system, strengthen the weakened, irritated membranes, and gradually overcome the craving. You can quickly and easily quit tobacco and enjoy yourself a thousand times better while feeling always in robust health. My FREE book tells all about the **wonderful 3 days' method.** Inexpensive, reliable. Also **Secret Method** for conquering habit in another, **without his knowledge.** Full particulars, including my **Book on Tobacco and Snuff Habit,** mailed in plain wrapper, **free.** Address:

TOBACCO HABIT CONQUERED IN 72 HOURS

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EDWARD J. WOODS. 10, NORFOLK ST. (306 T.M.), LONDON, W.C.

£3,952

IN RETURN FOR AN OUTLAY OF ONLY £13.

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READ THIS LETTER.

January 8, 1912.

From Henry Bowker, Fashionable Tailor, 33, Abingdon Square, Northampton.

The Comptoir Général des Valeurs, Brussels.

Dear Sirs,—I hereby wish to tender you my heartiest thanks for the wise and clever selection of bonds which you purchased for me and which besides yielding 3 per cent. interest per annum, one of them brought me a prize of 100,000 francs (£3,952 11s. 4d.)

Yours faithfully,
HENRY BOWKER.

By similar safe investments effected through us, a great number of our clients secure each year most substantial prizes. What exceptional facilities we offer for the acquisition of these gilt-edged securities—is told at length in our Booklet "Ideal Investments," sent post free for a postcard. There is no liability incurred by writing us; you are invited to judge of our business for yourself and accept or reject the offer we make.

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FIRST PRIZE - - £450

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A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
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AND

TOTAL PRIZES VALUE over £1,770

5,000 OTHER PRIZES VALUE OVER £1,100.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

LATEST FASHION	VERY SLOW	FASHION PLATES	YOURS TRULY	NECK OR NOTHING
BURNING SHAME	GRASS WIDOW	MOST PROMISING	VERY NAUGHTY	LEADING LADY
HOME SWEET HOME	MY COMPLAINT	PLEASANT SURPRISE	PLAYING RAGTIME	HER TRESSES
HARD LUCK	SHORT CUT	MAKING MISCHIEF	BLIND	WHAT FATHER SAID
CURRENT TOPICS	HEAVY LOSS	CHEAP AND NASTY	PAYING GUEST	HOT STUFF
LIBERAL MEASURE	GEORGE EDWARDES	IGNORANCE	MUCH APPRECIATED	NOT HAVING ANY
MODESTY	HOWLING SUCCESS	BIG HANDICAP	DIFFERENT GIRL AGAIN	GO AWAY
UPS AND DOWNS	NEXT TO NOTHING	SIDE SHOWS	TOTAL ABSTAINER	THE SEXES

BULLETS THE STRAIGHT COMPETITION—WITH MOST PRIZES.

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "MY COMPLAINT, and take the letters "L and "M, using the word "of as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "LACK OF MEANS. Or from, the example, "LATEST FASHION," the Bullet, "HARDLY ATTRACTIVE can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "SHORT CUT," using the letter "S" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "SEEMS LONGER SOMETIMES."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 16th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(28) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated April 19th.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 16th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(28) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 28," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed. & Co
4. Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date ... ding the order on the back of the postal order, the number of ... must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
5. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
6. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, April 16th.
7. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
8. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
9. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

RESULT OF TWENTY-FIFTH BULLETS COMPETITION.

FIRST PRIZE OF £400:—

Mr. WALTER BARRETT, 27, Gambetta Street, Queen's Road, Lavender Hill London, S.W.

Example:—WITHOUT AN EQUAL.
Bullet:—LAUGHTER FOR WORRY.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. JOSEPH RATCLIFFE, 93, Crawford Avenue, Smithdown Road, Liverpool.

Example:—MISSING.
Bullet:—MARKER TEMPTING NOVICE.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25

Mr. ARTHUR OATWAY, Conservative Club, Bexhill-on-Sea.

Example:—MODERN DRESS.
Bullet:—NOT PRUDISH—RUDISH!

TEN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

Mr. E. CORK, 30½, St. Peter's Lane, Leicester (NOT EASY—"NO"—TO TEMPTATION); Mrs. ALEXANDER LAIRD, 16, Sloane Gardens, S.W. (SPEED LIMIT—SPANISH SUCCESSION PROVIDED); Mr. EDWIN A. WALKINGTON, 47, Hulton Street, Moss Side, Manchester (UNSOLVED MYSTERY—MY BUTCHER'S 'OUNCES'); Mrs. MARSHALL, 215, Marlboro' Avenue, Princes Avenue, Hull (FALSE ECONOMY—ATTENDING BARGAIN SALES); Mr. J. H. HARRIS, C.Y.S., H.M.S. "Blake," Invergordon, N.B. (LOVE IS BLIND—OPULENT PAPA SCEPTICAL); Mr. JOHN BRIGGS, 32, Daukeld Road, Goodmayes, Essex (UNSOLVED MYSTERY—REASON KITCHENER'S EXILE); Mr. WALTER G. LEWIS, Eastington, Stonehouse, Glos. (SPEED LIMIT—MA LECTURING PA); Mr. W. NORRISH, "Glenwood," Torton Hartlebury, near Kidderminster (VERY SCARCE—CARETAKERS WHO CARE); Mrs. C. SMITH, 31, Eton Road, Ilford, Essex (FOREIGN AIR-SHIPS—"SLOPE" WHEN "INCLINED"); Mr. A. E. DOWSON Trinity Road, Sale, Manchester (REGRETTED—DIDN'T ENTER EARLIER).

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ASHBY, H., 41, Finsbury Road, Wood Green, N.
FREEMAN, J., Adderley Road, Saltley, Birmingham.
KAY, H., 106D, Albion Road, Stoke Newington, N.
KERNICK, E., 2, Stanley Terrace, Truro.
LAWTON, F., 4, Moran Street, Fulwell, Sunderland.
LOADER, J. E., 23, Carlisle Road, Southsea, Hants.
MOLYNEUX, W. H., 111, Colmore Row, Birmingham.
PERKINS, E., College Road, Bromsgrove.
STEVENS, W. R., 10, South View Terrace, St. Judes, Plymouth
THOMPSON, Mrs. A., 11, Telferscot Road, Balham, S.W.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

BENNETT, A. B., 17, Guernsey Road, Stoneycroft, Liverpool.
BENNETT, E., Dunallan, Farleigh Common, Upper Warlingham, Surrey.
BLYTHE, G. A., 5, Cliff Road, Hyde Park Corner, Leeds.
BOLAND, T. K., Hawkhead Asylum, Crookston, By Paisley.
BOOTH, W., 5, Half Edge Lane, Eccles, Manchester.
DOHERTY, K., 9, Brockenhurst Gardens, Harlesden, N.W.
ELLIS, HARRY, 114, Lowden Road, Herne Hill, S.E.
GRANT, Mrs. DORA, 15, Syr David Avenue, Cardiff.
HADDEN, R., Sorting Office, G.P.O., Aberdeen.
HICKMAN, E., 76, Sandon Street, Nottingham.
KERSWILL, S. H., 199, Chevening Road, Brondesbury, N.W.
McMANN, C., Staff, Town Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
NEAL, G. W., 12, Wickham Avenue, Bexhill-on-Sea.
PACKER, J., 39, Athenlay Road, Nunhead, S.E.
PEARSON, Mrs., 131, Great Norbury Street, Hyde, Cheshire.
SIMPSON, Mrs. F. E. E., 82, Drakefield Road, Tooting Common, S.W.
SMITH, J. H., 8, Sunnycroft Road, Western Park, Leicester.
VAUGHAN, S., 39, Kilmorey Gardens, St. Margarets-on-Thames.
WARNER, Miss P., 57, Clarendon Road, Holland Park, W
WILLIAMS, Thos., 3, Menai Cottages, near Bangor, North Wales

LIST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 25

A Selection from the List of 5,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mary Bull," dated April 26th.

Adcock, C. T., 18, Dundee-rd., South Norwood, S.E.
Austin, Mrs. E., 12, Richmond-ter., Avonmouth.
Avis, W., 7, Diamond-ter., Durham City
Bailey, F. C., 261 or 266, Brownhill-rd., Catford, S.E.
Barrett, M. J., 44, South-rd., West Hartlepool.
Barrett, C., 97, Edinburgh-rd., Kensington, Liverpool.
Batty, A., 67, Hatherley-st., Liverpool.
Bayliss, Mrs. J., 652, Forest-rd., Walthamstow, Essex.
Beaumont, H. G., 17, Cambridge-rd. Teddington, S.W.
Bell, G., 8, West-st., St. Ives, Hunts.
Bellamy, W. J., South Parade, Weymouth, Dorset.
Bisset, J., St. Elmo, Dragon Parade, Harrogate.
Border, T., 15, David's Loan, Bainsford, Falkirk.
Bolding, H., 13, Brading-rd., Brighton, Sussex.
Burlas, J., Bridge of Earn, Perthshire N.B
Boycott, F. E., Eversley, Aberystwyth.
Boyd, J., 35, Lee-st., Fulwell, Sunderland.
Bradbury, T., Ash Tree Villa, Foley-st., Wednesbury, Staffs.
Brady, B., "Evendyne," Allison-rd., Acton.
Branton, T., "Kaolin Holme," Park-rd., Spalding, Lincs.
Britton, S. G., 5, Montgomery-ter., Bemerton, Salisbury.
Brown, A. N., 2, Ashmore-st., Sunderland.
Brown, J., Junr., 10, Eskdale-st., Crosshill, Glasgow, S.S.
Bruce, J., 152, Brunton-gdns., Edinburgh.
Bull, F. W., 37, Avenue-rd., Leamington Spa.
Burdis, Mrs. Isa, 6, South-ave., Harton, South Shields.
Burrows, F., 230, Arkwright-st., Nottingham.
Burton, B., 103, Dawlish rd., Leyton, Essex.
Burton, H., 25, Mead's-rd., Edgware, Middlesex.
Cameron, J. J., 5, Cleveland-rd., North Shields.
Cardlish, J., Junr., "Benrue," Bridge-of-Weir, N.B.
Casey, J., 153, Mortlake-rd., Customs House, London, E.
Chaffer, Mrs. W., 36, Arthur-st., Rochdale.
Chamberlain, M. S., 5, Maple-ave., Cheriton-cum-Hardy, Manchester.
Chapman, A., 49, Edith-ave., Plymouth.
Chapman, Mrs. E., 10, Estella-ave., New Malden, Surrey.
Clark, C. T., "Ferncliffe," North Mount Vernon, nr. Glasgow.
Cockayne, W., Watling-st., Brownhills, Staffs.
Cole, G. S., 5, Craven-st., Birkenhead, Cheshire.
Coleman, W., 37, Plymouth-ave., Longsight, Manchester.
Coleshill, C. R., 6, Ashfield-rd., Finsbury Park, N.
Collins, E. J., Bushey Lodge, Teddington.
Coward, T., 48, Pontefract-rd., Barnsley.
Cox, H. E., 267, High-st., Exeter.
Creswell, B., 6, Rowen-st., Hillkirk-st., Ardwick, Manchester.
Cruickshank, G., "Ardbennie," Craigie-rd., Perth.
Dash, Mrs. F., Stour-st., Harwich, Essex.
Davies, R. G., 19, Corporation-rd., Newport, Mon.
Dawe, W. S., 4, Fairfax-ter., Stoke, Devonport.
Dowse, W. J., 56, Colebrook-st., Winchester, Hants.
Drummond, Mrs. J., 79, Oswald-st., Falkirk, N.B.
Dunford, Miss E., Keyhaven Post Office, Lymington, Hants.
Dwyer, J., Appleton, Widnes.
Dyer, T. M., Council School, Llandaff, Cardiff.
Eggett, A., 15, Tennyson-ave., Rock Ferry, Cheshire.
Eller, Maud, L., 63, Lumley-rd., Skegness, Lincs.
Ereaut, E. J., 37, Norland-sq., Holland Park-ave., W.
Etherington, J., 26, Bredon-rd., East Croydon.
Eyles, Mrs. M., 169, Edgware-rd., W.
Ferguson, J. M., 23, Bilton-rd., Rugby.
Follett, G., North-st., Midhurst, Sussex.
Forgham, Elsie G., "Ashberry," McKinley-rd., Bournemouth.
Forsyth, R. S., 23, Rosebery-rd., Stanwix, Carlisle.
Francis, A., 86, Northcroft-rd., W. Ealing.
Fraser, L., c.o. McLean, 31, Bruntsfield-ave., Edinburgh.
Gamon, C. E., "Benares," St. George's-rd., Aldershot, Hants.
Garbutt, A. E., 1, Earlethorpe-rd., Sydenham, S.E.
Gibson, J., 64, Somerset-rd., Erdington, Birmingham.
Glenrose, C., 18, Lime-grove, Shepherd's Bush.
Gothard, Mrs. A., Church-st., Alcester, Warwickshire.
Goulder, J., 23, Bonsall-st., Long Eaton, Notts.
Gow, W. C., 37, Royal-st., Liverpool, N.
Green, Mrs. C. M., 8, The Avenue, Sunderland.
Green, C. E., 347, Elswick-rd., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Hariscough, R. B., 81, High-st., Skipton, Yorks.
Hart, E., "Matlock," Hillman-rd., Parkstone, Dorset.
Hallett, A. H., 21, Grosvenor Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.
Halsey, S., Essex House, Essex-rd., Chadwell, Essex.
Harris, F., Box Cottage, Morden-rd., Merton, S.W.
Henderson, D. B., 7, Arlington-ave., Sefton Park, Liverpool.
Henfield, Mrs. R., 54, Bentham-rd., South Hackney, N.E.
Henwood, F., 18, Mildmay-st., Plymouth.
Hines, Mrs. A., 4, Fern Cottages, Albert-rd., Witham, Essex.
Hockley, Emily, 123, Upper Wickham-lane, Welling, Kent.
Hopley, C. W., 153, Crowborough-rd., Streatham, S.W.
Hort, J. H., 82, Worcester-rd., Bootle.
Howard, Mrs. M., 45, Magdalen-rd., Norwich.
Hoyle, H. W., 12, Newcomen-rd., Stareshaw, Portsmouth.
Hunt, Mrs. E., 46, Beresford-st., Stoke-on-Trent.
Jarvis, Mrs. K., Aldwincle, Thrapston.
Jewell, A. R., 55, Birkbeck-rd., Enfield, Middlesex.
John, J. A., 17, Regent-st., Dowlais, South Wales.
Johnson, R., 7, Tynemouth rd., Mitcham, Surrey.
Johnston, R., Catherine-ter., Crosshill, Glenerraig, Lochgelly, Fife, N.B.
Jones, G. P., 46, Courtland-ave., Ilford.
Keer, E. F., "Learansa," Devonshire-rd., St. Anne's-on-Sea.
Kelly, P., 4, Grace-ter., Cleveland-st., Birkenhead.
Kerr, J. R., 5, Nursery-st., Glasgow.
Kingwell, W. W., 12, Peliatt-rd., Lordship-lane, S.E.
Kirchner, F., 21, Sunnyside-rd., Ilford.
Lambert, A., 32, Hill-st., Hull.
Lambert, J. W., 11, Branch-rd., Armley, Leeds.
Langman, R., 42, Cumberland-rd., Woodside, S.E.
Lewis, L. R., 40, Lavender-rd., Worcester.
Locket, E., 1, Studley-rd., Clapham, S.W.
Lowman, E., Hillcrest Farm, Billericay, Essex.
Maginnis, Miss A., Mullins Hill, Tandragee, Co. Armagh.
Martin, Alice, c/o Mrs. Burrell, 40, Devonshire-st., Theobald's-rd., W.C.
McCormick, B., 16, Hartington-rd., West Ealing, W.
McDonald, J., c/o Gray, 86, Leadside-rd., Aberdeen.
McGarva, H., 25, Holmes-st., Hamilton, Lanarkshire.
Mackay, A., 2, Elm-row, Edinburgh.
McLean, Mrs. D., Fernie Bank, Renfrew, N.B.
McLennan, F. J., The King's Hospital, Dublin.
McNally, J., 16, Matlock-ave., West Didsbury, Manchester.
Middleton, J. H., 545, Warwick-rd., B'ham
Miller, J. H., 47, Trafalgar-rd., Egremont, Cheshire.
Mills, P. R., 1, Madison-ave, Cheadle, Hulme, Ches.
Montague, P., 22, Catherine-st., Reading, Berks.
Moore, J., 1, Oxford-place, Cheltenham.
Morison, A., Loan House, South Queensferry, N.B.
Mousley, W. J., 21, Alcester-st., Redditch, Worcester.
Muir, T., 17, Burdett-rd., Bow, E.
Nancarron, S. G., c/o Sutton, 51, Rose-st., Garnet Hill, Glasgow.
Needham, J. E., 29, Mill-st., Melton Mowbray.
Newton, H. G., 7, Avenue-ter., Sunderland, Durham.
Nichols, V. F., 27, Cuncliffe-st., Streatham.
Nicol, H., St. Ninian's, Hamilton, Scot.
Nixon, Mrs. E. A., Fort Hotel, Roker-ave., Sunderland.
Oldacre, F., Post Office Telephone Dept., Coventry.
Page, H. F., 233, Malpas-rd., Brockley, S.E.
Painter, H. T., 5, North-rd., Bristol.
Parr, R., Fleetwood-rd., Thornton-le-Fylde, Lancs.
Parr, W. T., 45, Leivers-st., West Derby rd., Liverpool.
Parker, Hettie, Valetta, St. Michael's-sq., Gloucester.
Pearcey, A. E., 13, Hill-st., Upper Gornal, nr. Dudley, Staffs.
Petty, C. F., 45, Livingstone-rd., Southampton.
Phelps, A. J., 20, Worcester-st., Glos.
Phillips, R., 31, Osborne-rd., Pontypool, nr. Newport, Mon.
Phillips, H. V., Telegraph Dept., Lloyd's Royal Exchange, E.C.
Pickering, W., Confectioner, 37, Lostock, Gralam, Northwich.
Platt, T., 169, Gosbrook-rd., Lower Caversham, Reading.
Porter, E. H., 25, Cranbrook-rd., Bristol.
Price, W., 9, Elizabeth-st., Pentre Rhondda, Glam.
Pritchard, L., Eastbourne Lodge, Chester-rd., Kidderminster.
Rawlinson, Mrs. E., Bridge-st., Garstang, Lancs.
Redman, Emily S., 28, Winter rd., Sthsea.
Reed, S. W., 274, Cowley-mans., Mortlake.
Rich, E. D., Fore-st., North Petherton, Bridgwater, Somerset.
Rishton, H., 23, Victoria-st., Blackpool.
Roberts, R., 187, Albany-rd., Cardiff
Robertson, Minnie S., 53, Church-st., Leigh, Lancs.
Rogers, C. M., "Glenhurst," 225, Manor Farm-rd., Bitterne Park, Southampton.
Roxburgh, Miss, 3, Station-ter., Middleton St. George, Durham.
Salmon, P. R., 115, Minard-rd., Hither Green, S.E.
Sanderson, W., 27, Carter Gate, Nottingham.
Schaap, Mrs., "Sea View," Hillbrow-rd., Pokesdown, Bournemouth.
Scott, W. J., 239, Greystone-rd., Carlisle.
Sharman, F. W., 13, Lancaster-sq., Gt. Yarmouth, Norfolk.
Shepherd, J. W., 17, Hollyshaw ter., Whitkirk, nr. Leeds.
Slater, H. S., Sergt., 2nd Northumberland Fusiliers, Hillsboro' Barracks, Sheffield.
Smith, G. S., 51, Legsby-ave., Grimsby.
Smith, B., 20, Boar-lane, Leeds.
Smith, J. E., Maule's Park, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, N.B.
Spencer, H., 103, Colworth-rd., Leytonstone.
Staver, J., 33, Queensgate-st., Hull, Yorks.
Stephen, H., c/o Gouldings, East Wall, Dublin.
Stephens, H., Colerne, Chippenham, Wilts.
Sullivan, Mrs. G., 61, Nelson-st., Aberdeen.
Salter, Miss C., "Elmside," Oak Hill, Surbiton.
Swain, T. G., 49, Croydon-rd., Beckenham, Kent.
Sweet, F. D., 22nd Co., A.S.C., Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wilts.
Symons, J., 22, St. Mary-st., Weymouth.
Taggart, D., 27, Grafton-st., Londonderry.
Talman, J., 99, Queensborough-gdns., Hyndland, Glasgow.
Tanner, H., 173, Elsenham-st., Southfields, S.W.
Taylor, L., 184, Chesham Hill-rd., Manchester
Tennant, J., Portland Cottage, Hamilton, N.B.
Thomas, T., 17, Stockton-rd., Newport, Mon.
Thompson, Miss R., 209, City-rd., Roath Park, Cardiff.
Thorne, Mrs. K., 162, Aspley-rd., Upper Parkstone, Dorset.
Tomlinson, W. W., 11, Gordon-rd, Monton, Eccles.
Turner, R. C., 32, Egmont-st., New Cross, S.E.
Tyler, E. W., 32, Stile Hall-gdns., Chiswick, W.
Underwood, Miss G., 34, Ringfield-rd., Wimbledon, Surrey.
Urwin, W. R., 87, Somerville-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham
Ward, L., 14, Second-ave., Teignmouth, Devon.
Warner, A. E., London-rd., Markfield, nr. Leicester.
Warrie, F. H., Orchard-st., Llandovery.
Way, Mrs. F., 18, Divinity-rd., Oxford.
Westmore H., 56, Church-rd., Guildford.
Whittle, G., "Messina," Hayling-ave., Portsmouth, Hants.
Wilde E. S., "Tydu," Cowell rd, Grnant, South Wales.
Wilkins, C., 22, Tyne rd., Bishopston, Bristol.
Wilson, W., 25, Bath Row, Rounds Green, Oldbury, nr. Birmingham.
Woodbridge, S., 17, Strode-rd., Fulham, S.W.
Woollacott, A., c/o Blackett and Baster, 9, Stall-st., Bath.
Wright, H. C., 47, Exeter-st., Gateshead-on-Tyne.
York, A., 3, Cheltenham-cres., Bristol.
Young, J. M., 26, Northpark-ave., Ayr, Ayrshire, N.B.

Complete List of 5,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Prophetic.

At Warwick to-day (Wednesday), the Shakespeare Welter, should the going be at all firm, will go to Chill October, who could not act in the mud at Alexandra Park.

Ros Comain

must very nearly win the Hampton Welter on the same day, and Athenee the Sotham T.Y.O. Selling Plate. On the second day Sylva looks good for the Grove Park T.Y.O. Plate as does Gil Blas in the Spring Three-Year-Old Handicap, whilst the Leicester form points strongly to

St. Cronan

as the winner of the Town Welter.

Newbury will supply splendid sport. On the first day Ask Papa will want a deal of beating for the Chieveley Handicap.

Shogun

will run for the Greenham Handicap and should score comfortably. In a probable big field for the Beckhampton T.Y.O. Plate Tanaquil is sure to run up prominently. The Newbury Cup on Saturday will bring out many of the Lincolnshire failures. Probably Long Set will not be amongst them, and in his absence we should name

Aiglon

as the probable winner.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith

H. Diamond (Lucerne).—Bristol Reader.—It is nothing unusual to have the same numbers in different alphabetical series. There is nothing in your complaint.

Calcutta Derby Sweep.—J. S. (Croydon), Sweep, and others.—We have again to explain that tickets for this are now obtainable only through members of the Calcutta Turf Club, and it is this fact which has prompted Mr. Patrick O'Brien, of Geneva, to inaugurate the John Bull Derby Sweep, which, of course, contains no such restrictions.

Bouveret Turf Club.—J. S. W. W. (Rathgar).—We consider the letter you have received a most improper one.——W. K. (Liverpool).—We find nothing inconsistent in the two extracts you send us.

A. H. Westwood (Edinburgh and Olten, Switzerland).—A. J. Mcq. (Vauxhall).—We have looked fully into the matter and are satisfied that you have no cause for complaint.——Oxonian.—We are assured that Mr. Westwood has never had any business with you.

G. and W. Peters (Twickenham).—C. M. (London).—We do not recommend dealings.

"John Bull" Derby Sweep.—Partisan.—You need not be anxious. If you were fortunate enough to win a prize, the publication of your name as a winner would not render you liable to any proceedings; but no names will be published without permission.——Puir Auld Scotland.—There will be no necessity to write from England, and if you win, of course you will receive your prize.——C. H. B. (Ipswich).—Of course, purchasers of tickets from their friends must satisfy themselves that the counterfoils have been duly forwarded to Mr. Patrick O'Brien.——Aqua Fortis and W. M. (Belfast).—You can obtain full particulars from Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland, which is sufficient address.——H. A. (Sanderstead), J. H. L. (Dewsbury), A. M. W. (Salisbury, Rhodesia).—We have already stated that we cannot act as agents for the transmission of money or issue of tickets.——Nemo.—(1) Of course, you can use all the tickets in your own name, and you will be eligible for as many prizes as you may be successful enough to draw. (2) It is advisable to make an early application, in view of the heavy demand.——J. S. M. (Watford).—You would be quite safe. Mr. O'Brien will send you tickets if you apply for them, but they will not be included in the draw unless the counterfoils are returned to him with the money.——W. V. M. R. (Portmadoc), G. H. T. (Whitchurch).—Of course, you can use a nom de plume.——W. R (Rhondda).—The book contains nine tickets, and, if you take the lot, you are entitled to one free as a bonus.——H. L. (West Dulwich).—The result of the draw will be announced in the issue dated June 7th, but which will be published on the morning of the race.——S. A. C. (London).—You are quite wrong in thinking that there is any difference between the colour in any of the tickets for this sweep.——A. O. B. (East Grinstead).—Any names can be filled in the counterfoils, but doubtless your friends would like theirs to appear on those they take.——L. H. (Bruce Grove).—Of course, you can take a single ticket.

Carlton Sports Club.—A. H. F. (Itchen).—We would refer you to our issue of February 22nd, when in reply to another correspondent we said that the use of our name by these people is quite unauthorised and is very misleading. We would also direct your attention to a paragraph appearing in our issue of March 15th, in which we stated that we had been assured by the promoters that delay in the distribution of prizes in connection with the Waterloo Cup Sweep was due to the serious illness of "the director," and that all amounts had then been paid.

Swiss Firms.—G. C. N. (Gravesend).—Messrs. Hamilton and Co., Leslie Murray and Co., White, Fisher and Co., and Smallman and Terry, are quite respectable firms, but we are unable to identify the other you mention from the particulars contained in your letter. What is the full address? You can obtain books of tickets for the John Bull Derby Sweep from Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva.

Turf Pool Syndicate.—M. E. Ham.—We have already expressed our opinion that this is a genuine concern.

The Totalisator (Lucerne).—N. D. P. (Yakapuna).—Quite bonâ-fide, but we know nothing of the other firm you mention; we should have preferred a more representative committee at their Lincolnshire Draw.

British Investments Agency.—Blackburnian.—We should advise you to have nothing to do with these people's sweeps.

Weatherby's (Birsfelden).—Blackburnian.—The same remark applies to these people, who are trading upon the well-known name of Messrs Weatherby and Sons, who, we need hardly say, have nothing whatever to do with the undertaking.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, April 12th, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Year's Result.	JOHN BULL	Lodinga's Weekly.	London Mail.	Umpire.	Sunday Chronicle.	News of the World.	Weekly Dispatch.	Competitors Guide.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—1st LEAGUE—	Bolton Wanderers v. Aston Villa ..	Bolton won 3—0	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home	Home
	Bradford C. v. Blackburn Rovers ..	Bradford won 1—0	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Draw	Draw	Away	Home
	Chelsea v. Tottenham H.	No Game.	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Liverpool v. Sunderland	Liverpool won 2—1	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home
	Manchester City v. Sheffield Wed. ..	Manchester won 4—0	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home
	Newcastle Un. v. Notts County ..	Newcastle won 3—2	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Oldham A. v. Middlesbrough ..	Oldham won 2—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Sheffield Un. v. Manchester Un. ..	Sheffield won 6—1	Away	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Away	Draw	Home
	West Bromwich Albion v. Everton ..	Bromwich won 1—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Woolwich A. v. Derby County ..	No Game	Home	Away	Home	Away	Draw	Home	Home	Away
	Birmingham v. Huddersfield Town ..	Birmingham won 1—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bristol City v. Leeds City	Bristol won 4—1	Away	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home
	Burnley v. Wolverhampton	Burnley won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Clapton O. v. Fulham	Clapton won 4—0	Away	Away	Away	Home	Home	Home	Away	Draw
	Glossop v. Barnsley	Barnsley won 2—0	Home	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Draw
	Hull City v. Bradford	Hull won 5—1	Home	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Notts Forest v. Grimsby Town ..	Notts won 1—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Preston N. E. v. Leicester Fosse ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Stockport C. v. Blackpool	Blackpool won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Lincoln City v. Bury	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Watford v. Queen's Park R.	Q. P. Rang's won 3—0	Home	Away	Home	Away	—	Home	Draw	Home
	Coventry City v. Brentford	Coventry won 4—0	Home	Home	Home	Draw	—	Home	Home	Home
	Crystal Palace v. Gillingham	Draw, 1—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Merthyr Town v. Northampton ..	No Game	Home	Home	Draw	Draw	—	Home	Draw	Home
	Southampton v. Reading	Reading won 2—0	Away	Away	Home	Away	—	Home	Home	Away
	Portsmouth v. Stoke	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	West Ham Un. v. Bristol Rovers ..	West Ham won 6—2	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Exeter City v. Swindon	Swindon won 4—1	Draw	Away	—	Draw	—	Away	Away	Draw
	Brighton and Hove v. Millwall ..	Millwall won 1—0	Away	Home	Away	Draw	—	Home	Draw	Home
	Plymouth A. v. Norwich City ..	Plymouth won 3—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	

Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

J. McLAUCHLAN

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The following claims have been received in respect of our issues of February 8th, March 8th, 15th and 22nd:—

J. LOUGHLIN, c/o Mrs. Taylor, 254, Oldham Road, Longsight, Royton, nr. Oldham, Lancs. February 8th. No. 332,973.

THOS. G. McEVOY, 27, Cawdor Street, Hulme, Manchester. March 15th. No. 634,526.

A. A. FARRAR, Orlestone Council School, Ham Street, Ashford, Kent. March 15th. No. 993,022.

F. JARVIS, 84, Franchise Street, Weymouth. March 15th. No. 463,123.

J. GRIFFIN, 5, Wilfreds Terrace, Raven Street, Hull. March 15th. No 206,450.

E. H. HALLAM, 126, Castle Road, Bedford. March 8th. No. 954,950.

S. DAVIES, 125, Marylebone Road, N.W. March 15th. No. 368,436.

ALLEN LEVER, 38, Eastmoor Road, Wakefield. March 22nd. No. 124,615.

P. McVEAN, 10, Market Street, Perth, N.B. March 22nd. No. 518,799.

H. VINCENT WATTS, 6, Verdon Street, Sheffield. March 22nd. No. 70,931.

E. ROSE CUREDALE, 2, Station Road, Ramsey, Huntingdonshire. March 15th. No. 375,281.

NOEL S. STEPHEN, 30, Christian Road, Douglas, Isle of Man. March 22nd. No. 218,712.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 5th:—

013989	156724	339857	472998	780741
020182	162319	352462	492343	800865
029619	180786	366175	502381	828436
039230	194038	384141	545901	842777
042530	211907	398223	583018	904755
063632	226551	419900	632276	935562
083498	236818	424599	659863	976436
095991	318481	430985	687707	A009598
108315	324191	440943	753209	A089321
144418	330281	458864	761146	A224787

The A prefixed to the drawn numbers indicates it is plus a million.

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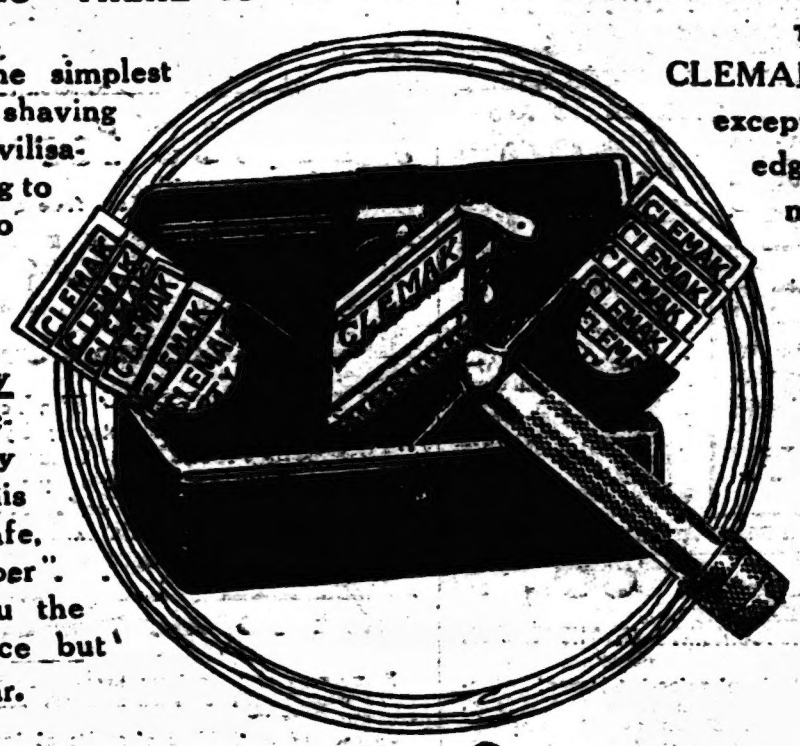

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